

## Interest rate fall expected

Bank of England officials have accepted that bank interest rates are likely to fall by half a percentage point soon. American interest rates are falling sharply, and British rates must slip a little to stop the pound soaring. Page 19

## Line put on drifting oil rig

After several unsuccessful attempts, a line was put on board Transworld 56, the British oil rig adrift in a stormy North Sea for 37 hours. Twenty men were still on the rig, which was followed all day by five vessels. Page 2

## BAOR bomb claim by INLA

The Irish National Liberation Army, which killed Mr Airey Neave, Conservative spokesman on Ulster, claimed responsibility in Dublin for a bomb that exploded at a British Army base in Herford, West Germany. One soldier was treated for shock. Page 2

## Arab summit collapses

King Hassan of Morocco cancelled the Arab League summit conference in Fez hours after it opened, the official Moroccan news agency MAP announced. A senior Moroccan official said the king had decided to cancel the meeting because the Arab leaders were hopelessly deadlocked over the Saudi Arabian peace plan for the Middle East. Page 8

## Legal brothels to be considered

Legalization of brothels in certain areas of cities is to be considered, it was announced in the House of Commons. MPs were told that Mr William Whitelaw's Criminal Law Revision Committee would shortly issue a working paper for public comment on prostitution. Parliamentary report, page 6



## Pictures of body make jurors ill

A judge temporarily halted a murder trial at the Central Criminal Court when three jurors felt unwell while looking at photographs of a dismembered body. The jury were sent to their room. Page 6

## Heikal freed from prison

Mr Mohamed Heikal, the Egyptian journalist and former editor of Al-Ahram, was among 31 prominent Egyptians released from prison yesterday by President Mubarak, three months after they had been arrested on the orders of the late President Sadat. Back page

## De Lorean calls in all cars

The De Lorean motor company is recalling for a safety check the 1,715 cars it has sold so far, all in the United States. The company said a nut securing the lower ball joint and stabilizer bar on the front suspension could work loose. Page 10

## EEC talks begin today

EEC heads of government begin a two-day summit meeting in London today, with the Community budget, common agricultural policy and regional policies the main issues on the agenda. Page 10

**Leader, page 15**  
Letters: On glittering prizes, from the Chairman of Beecham Products and others; Ulster, from Mr David Smyth.  
**Leading articles:** Scarman; Schmidt-Brezhnev summit.  
**Features, page 14**  
A black view of the Scarman Report; Robert Fisk reports on Exercise Bright Star; Peter Watson's London Diary.  
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# Scarman's plan for racial peace wins wide backing

The Government has promptly accepted Lord Scarman's main proposals for reforming the way racially mixed inner cities are policed. Police representatives gave qualified support, but publication yesterday of Lord Scarman's report into last April's rioting in Brixton disappointed some representatives of ethnic groups. Many had expected sharper criticism of the police handling of the riots, whereas Lord Scarman generally gives praise for a force that "stood between our society and a total collapse of law and order". Lord Scarman, commending his call for some positive discrimination in favour of the minorities, said: "We have got to get our three or four societies into one society."

By Lucy Hodges and Peter Evans

### MAIN POINTS

- Statutory consultative committees to make the police more accountable.
- Greater independent oversight of police complaints procedure.
- Longer and improved police recruit training on dealing with public and preventing and handling disorder.
- Racially prejudiced behaviour by police to be a dismissal offence.
- Better coordinated attack on inner-city problems.
- No reform of Riot Act.

Scarman report Recommendations, conclusions 5  
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Police and politicians last night backed Lord Scarman's plan for racial peace in Britain. Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, promised immediate action to improve relations between the police and the community, as recommended in Lord Scarman's report on the Brixton riots.

Police chiefs, who accepted there had been mistakes in policing, called on the Government to remove the "breeding ground for discontent in inner city areas." If the police did all they could, but the root causes remained, riots would recur, Mr Barry Pain, President of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said.

Sir David McNee, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, pledged police goodwill for better cooperation and consultation with the public. Initial reaction by black community leaders was largely favourable, although there was a strong undercurrent of criticism from the young and the militant.

Summing up his own report, Lord Scarman said: "What we have got to get out of this is one, two, three or four societies back into one society." Lord Scarman's report, which runs to 151 pages, blames police, politicians and the community at large for the violent collapse of law and order. Urgent action is needed to prevent the disease of racial disadvantage from "threatening the very survival of our society," Lord Scarman calls for a "direct co-ordinated attack" by central government and local authorities to eliminate the racial inequality from the country's social fabric. This "inevitably means that the ethnic minorities will enjoy for a time a positive discrimination in their favour. But it is a price worth paying."

He says that on the weekend of April 10-12, the British people watched with horror and incredulity a television presentation of scenes of violence and disorder in their capital, the like of which had not previously been seen in Britain this century. "In the centre of Brixton, a few hundred people, many of them black, but not all of them, black-stacked the police on the streets with stones, bricks, iron bars and petrol bombs, demonstrating to millions of their fellow citizens the fragile basis of our society's peace."

"These young people, by their criminal behaviour—for such whatever their grievances are, it was a temporary brought about a temporary

collapse of law and order in the centre of an inner suburb of London." Fortunately, no one was killed. But 279 policemen and 45 members of the public were injured, and property was damaged, and there was widespread looting.

Lord Scarman says the police must carry some responsibility for the outbreak of disorder. Lord Scarman's criticisms were partly to blame for the breakdown in community relations, secondly, there were instances of harassment and racial prejudice against junior officers on Brixton streets, which gave credibility and substance to critics of the police, and thirdly, there was a failure to adjust policies and methods to meet the needs of policing in a multi-racial society.

But Lord Scarman goes on to commend the tactics, courage and dedication of the police in handling the terrifying lawlessness of the crowd. "They stood between our society and a total collapse of law and order in the streets of an important part of the capital. For that they deserve, and must receive, the praise and thanks of all sections of our community. It was a tribute to their restraint that no one died."

Lord Scarman says that allegations of over-reaction, brutality and unreasonable aggression by police in response to the rioters were unfounded. The failures of police were only part of the

story and arose in difficult circumstances. "The community and community leaders in particular must take their share of the blame for the atmosphere of distrust and mutual suspicion between the police and the community which developed in Lambeth during the 1970s, and reached its peak in the weeks prior to the disorders."

His report includes recommendations for the reform of relationships between police and the community, calls for new statutory liaison committees at local level, reform of the police complaints procedure, better and longer police training and more black police recruits. Lord Scarman says that policing must be with the consent of the community.

He rejects the idea of a new Riot Act, but recommends amendments to the Public Order Act and says racial discrimination should be made an offence under police disciplinary code, punishable by dismissal. A major innovation proposed is that lay police station visitors should make random checks on the interrogation and detention of suspects.

The report rejects many of the criticisms made of the police at its inquiry and says that senior officers are racist. He finds they did not over-react to the disorders, that they were right not to withdraw and that their strategy and tactics are to be commended. Brixton's blacks welcomed the report but there was criticism, notably from Mr Derran Thomas, a spokesman for the Brixton Defence Campaign, which boycotted Lord Scarman's inquiry. Mr Thomas said that the report was a "disappointment" and that the police had been "let off the hook".

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Mr Thomas condemned the report for its support of the police and Mr Ouseley said Lord Scarman was wrong to reject the idea that racism was institutionalized in Britain. The strongest criticism came from Mr Derran Thomas, a spokesman for the Brixton Defence Campaign, which boycotted Lord Scarman's inquiry. Mr Thomas said that the report was a "disappointment" and that the police had been "let off the hook".

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President Brezhnev grabs at his hat as an unexpected gust hits him just before his inspection of a guard of honour in the ceremony marking the end of his visit to Bonn yesterday.

## Schmidt takes lead in European arms talks

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Nov. 25

West Germany today emphasized its key role in East-West relations by making it clear that it will take an active part in the sidelines of Monday's Geneva missile negotiations. Through diplomatic channels, talking to both the Soviet Union and the United States. Reporting to the Cabinet at the meeting between President Brezhnev and Chancellor Schmidt, Helmut Schmidt, the West German Foreign Minister, said the contacts with the Russians on the European missile question, developed at the two-day talks, would be "contributing through diplomatic channels."

It was understood that the aim was to exchange views and influence Soviet thinking and assessments of American policy. This was in no way intended to be a special West German-Soviet channel behind the backs of the Americans. West Germany would act as a member of the alliance and would keep the other members fully informed.

The West German intention, however, do appear to be a new element at the Geneva talks. The negotiations are really between the United States and the Soviet Union, with West Germany as a main battlefield in any European nuclear war, has considerable influence on the American position through the NATO special consultative group, which coordinates policy.

The West Germans have long seen their task in NATO as that of an "interpreter" explaining, persuading and trying to dispel mutual distrust. How the Americans will view parallel German-Soviet contacts remains to be seen. Herr Bernd von Sueden, the Chancellor's chief foreign policy aide, has some comments to go when he flies to Washington on Friday to brief the Reagan Administration on the talks.

Mr Brezhnev left for Moscow today. The Russians and West Germans published a joint communiqué saying that every effort must be made in Geneva to achieve an agreement which would bring medium-range missiles to the lowest possible level. It said that there were "differences of opinion" about how this was to be achieved.

Fixing being the dry and formal document that might have been expected, the communiqué could be summed up in a word which Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, has used for this week's discussions with Mr Brezhnev: *Sicherheitspartnerschaft* — Partnership for security.

It said they agreed "that everything must be done to maintain and strengthen the policy of détente and peaceful cooperation on an equal footing."

The text, which showed a strong West German influence, said they believed in the need to achieve concrete agreements on a stable balance of power at the lowest possible level. This would improve the political atmosphere and greatly reduce an element of trust in international relationships. It announced that by agreement with East Germany, West Berlin would be delivered up to West Germany under the Soviet-German pipeline deal—the first time that the Soviet Union has implicitly conceded that West Berlin is part of West Germany.

## Council tenants face rent rises

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A large increase in house rents and a cut in the real value of unemployment benefit seem certain to be agreed by the Cabinet today, as it puts the final touches to a package of reductions on next year's planned public spending.

The spending plans and new forecasts for the economy are expected to be announced next Wednesday. Among them there is likely to be an increase of about £500m in the amount which state industries are allowed to borrow for their investment.

After weeks of argument between the Treasury and spending ministers, in which Mrs Margaret Thatcher has generally intervened, the Cabinet will today agree to public spending in 1982-83 of £115,000m, about some £5,000m more than originally planned.

The Treasury originally assumed spending next year of £110,000m, but estimates from spending ministers totalled about £117,000m. Because of optimistic revenue forecasts for next year, the Treasury pressed a reduction to allow spending to go "between £3,000m and £4,000m higher than previously planned."

The debate over past weeks has been about the "trimming" of £3,000m and the "indications" of the "last night" when those in the House of Commons have been able to find only about £2,000m, leaving a total overshoot of about £5,000m.

Speculation that the real value of unemployment benefit was to be reduced for the second year, raising was increased last night after Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, told the City Conservative Forum in London that "the Government has no intention of cutting in their standard of living, those on short-term benefit may have to do the same."

But he added: "There is a very clear limit to what is possible of special acceptable cuts in the real value of unemployment benefit, and that limit is set by the need to preserve the supplementary benefit safety net for the poorest families."

Today's Cabinet is expected to settle the long struggle between the Treasury and the Department of the Environment over the level of council house rents and the percentage cut in rate support grants.

Sir Geoffrey Howe is expected to propose a rent rise of between £2.00 and £3.00 a week, a compromise between the £1.50 originally suggested by the Environment and the £4 by the Treasury.

In their campaign against profiteering local authorities, ministers yesterday failed to agree on the next step. They appeared to have decided to delay again the second reading of the Local Government Finance Bill, now that Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has accepted that his referendum provision should be dropped.

No conclusion was reached on the alternatives to referenda.

## Williams set for Crosby victory

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Government was last night expected to be elected second by-election defeat of the present Parliament in Crosby today and its second drubbing in five weeks at the hands of the Social Democratic and Liberal Alliance.

The series of protestations of disbelief by the SDP Alliance candidate, Mrs Shirley Williams, in the message of the opinion polls, and in spite of contradictory findings by the "big parties" canvassers, there was growing belief in each camp as campaigning ended that Mrs Williams will be back at Westminster next week, two-and-a-half years after her defeat in the general election.

The latest opinion poll in today's Daily Star, based on interviews with Crosby voters as recently as yesterday and Tuesday, indicates a 15-point lead for Mrs Williams over the Conservative candidate, Mr John Burcher, and a lost deposit for Mr John Burcher, the Labour contestant. The figures are: SDP Alliance 48; Conservative 36; Labour 11; Others 4.

Chancing "right to work" demonstrators last night held an SDP election rally at a school hall (the Press Association wires). Mrs Williams and four guest speakers, left the stage when a group of 40 people in the audience jeered and shouted about winning elections. Police were called.

A shaken Mrs Williams said: "This proves everything I have been saying about the far left." She and her guests then addressed about 700 people in another school hall.

The polling organization, MORI, estimates that turnout today will be about 65 per cent, and that that would yield a majority of between 6,000 and 7,000 for Mrs Williams. That would represent a swing from the Conservatives to the Alliance since the general election of 1979.

That would be higher than the anti-government swings when Mr William Pitt, standing as the Liberal Alliance candidate with SDP support, won Croydon North-west from the Conservatives in the by-election five weeks ago.

The National Opinion Poll findings, published in yesterday's Daily Mail, gave Mrs Williams a 15-point lead over the Conservatives and were looked at askance by the candidates.

Mrs Williams described the figures as "simply unbelievable." Mr Burcher, insisting that they did not square with Conservative canvassers' reports, said that he was still finding strong loyalty to the Government among voters, and he forecast a spectacular victory today.

Mr Burcher said that he believed Conservative voters were deliberately testing the opinion polls, and his campaign managers said that in the last days of the campaign they had found that about three out of five voters previously un-

Continued on back page, col 6

# FREE ZONE SPEKE

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NEWS IN SUMMARY



Mr Christie arriving at Heathrow yesterday

Briton home from Saudi detention

Mr Stuart Christie, aged 48, the building owner who was held in Saudi Arabia for 14 months on a murder charge, flew back to London yesterday to a champagne welcome at his home in Stamford Brook, west London, and said: "It's marvelous to be safely home. I was glad I could convince them I was not guilty."

Mr Christie, who was managing director of Arabian Elder Ltd, had been held accused of stabbing to death Mr Paul Brown, his business partner.

"They thought I was responsible because I admitted to being the last person to see him alive," he said at Heathrow airport. "They said: 'If you are not the murderer, prove it.' I thought, 'Christie, you are 5ft 11in tall, but even you are going to be just 5ft without your head'."

Firms 'unaware of research'

Industrial firms should be more vigorous in ferreting around universities for inventions to exploit commercially, Dr James Gowans, FRS, secretary of the Medical Research Council, told Commons select committee yesterday. He said he was often surprised by industry's lack of awareness of medical research. (Our Science Editor writes).

Dr Gowans was one of three representatives from the Advisory Board for the Research Councils giving evidence to an inquiry into science policy. He spoke of the difficulties in transferring genetic engineering discoveries from laboratory into commercial development.

Teenager saves family in fire

Paul Melia, aged 18, unemployed, of Lockwood Road, Rotherham, South Yorkshire, climbed a drainpipe to rescue Mrs Jean Osocroft, aged 21, and her children, Tina, aged three, and David, 18 months, from their burning home in Haywood Close, Rotherham. He stood on the blazing roof of a ground floor bay window and passed the children to neighbours before helping Mrs Osocroft to safety.

Malvern head moves

Mr Martin Rogers, Head Master of Malvern College for the past 18 years, has been appointed Chief Master of King Edward's School, Birmingham, in succession to Mr Robson Fisher, aged 60, who is leaving at the end of the school year to take over as deputy secretary of the Head Masters' Conference. Mr Rogers, aged 50, was educated at Oundle School, Bedfordshire, Cambridge, where he read natural sciences and history. Before going to Malvern, he was Master of the Queen's Scholars at Westminster School.

Dearer travel but more will benefit

British Rail fares rise by 9.5 per cent from Sunday but the age limit for half price children's fares will also be raised, from 14 to 16. BR says the increase, the first for a year and one of the lowest in recent times, will bring in an extra £70m a year. BR was able to hold down the increase because of an extra £23m subsidy paid earlier this year by the Government.

50p in the £ rates rise forecast

A rates increase of 50p in the pound is likely in Manchester next year if the Government cuts its block grant to the city by £14m. Mr Ross Prescott, the city's treasurer, told a joint meeting of the council's policy and finance committees, yesterday.

80 sheep killed

Eighty sheep were killed yesterday when a lorry carrying 300 to market overturned on the A59 near Blackburn, Lancashire. The driver escaped with slight injuries.

Seven guilty of smuggling tons of cannabis

Seven men were convicted at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of their part in the multi-million pound "Operation Cyclone" drug smuggling case.

The included Robert Mills, a bookmaker, who masterminded a plot to bring cannabis "by the ton" into a Cornish cove at Tolland Bay between 1975 and 1979. But an eighth defendant, Robert Howton, aged 33, salesman, of Camberwell, south London, was cleared.

Six other men have admitted their role in the smuggling team. All 13 will be sentenced later this week. The jury has taken more than two days to reach its verdicts, spending two nights secretly at a London hotel.

The cannabis was brought from North Africa on board a converted radar-equipped fishing boat, *Guiding Light*. Mr Robert Harman, for the prosecution, said during the two-month trial: "It was drug-running on a huge scale. Three million pounds of the proceeds were paid into the Midland International Bank in Gracechurch Street, City, in under three years."

The account was in the name of Ambrose Vinales, a Gibraltar bank manager, who transferred the money to his native country where it was "laundered".

Mr Harman said the English number one in the operation was Mills, who had a visible "cut" of support, but drug dealing, but as a bookmaker, had ideal cover for handling thousands of pounds.

Between 1977 and 1979 over £500,000 was paid into an account in Sreestham, south London.

The court heard that between 1975 and 1979 the trawler regularly picked up its illegal cargo from Morocco and sailed to Tolland Bay.

It is the sort of place chosen by smugglers for centuries. It is reached by various winding roads with a restricted view from the cliffs, Mr Harman said. The only buildings were a cottage and a beach café. Both were occupied and run by Roderick Eagleton.

The cargo was brought ashore by rubber dinghies, loaded on to a Land-Rover at the water's edge and hidden in an underground store.

"The cargo was not run or tobacco as once might have been the case, but cannabis by the ton." The smugglers combined the stealth and skills of traditional smugglers with twentieth-century banking and seafaring technology. "The profits must have run into many millions of pounds," Mr Harman said.

Ambrose Vinales, aged 51, admitted drawing the money which had been transferred to Gibraltar, but denied knowing it had anything to do with drugs. Mr Harman said Edward Victory, aged 57, a businessman, was said to be Mills's assistant.

Trevor Cole, aged 40, financial consultant of Aygarth Road, Dulwich, south-east London, was convicted of supplying the drug along with William Moon, aged 41, roofer, of Canobie Road, Forest Hill, south-east London, and Dennis Madden, aged 29, builder, of Chestnut Avenue, Langley, Buckinghamshire. All denied the charge.

The seventh man, Thomas Lake, aged 57, unemployed, denied smuggling. The six who admitted their part before the trial began were: Malcolm Gardner, aged 34, of West End Road, Bitterne, Southampton; Terence Goodship, aged 41, of Eastcote Road, Welwyn, Kent; Reginald Jackson, aged 41, of Watford Way, Hendon, north London; and Anthony Dugdale, aged 33, of Porchester, Hampshire. Another alleged gang member, Ronald Taylor, still being sought, while James Jones, aged 53, was too ill to stand trial.

Before the court were: George Scott, aged 58, and his son, Ian, aged 30, both of Nine Mile Ride, Finchampstead, Wokingham; Claudio Mondino, aged 37, club owner, of The Green, Upton, Norfolk; Maurice Wood, aged 58, tax manager, of Wellington Court, Westminster; and Georg Pratten, aged 63, diamond jeweller, of Woodlands Road, West, Virginia Water, Surrey.

They all pleaded not guilty to conspiring together and with others to defraud the National Union Bank and associated companies by inducing them to part with money on presentation of false invoices.

Mr Hyam said the Scots run a perfume company called Charles Scott Perfumery Ltd. In 1976 the bank arranged to supply money on the basis of invoices.

The trial was adjourned until today.

BBC accused of 'dirty tricks' in buying films

By Kenneth Gossling

The BBC were accused yesterday of employing unfair tactics in buying feature films for television.

Mr Leslie Halliwell, chief film buyer for the independent companies, asked whether he thought the corporation had a "dirty tricks" department. "We have been surprised by the BBC and their way of going about things."

From their point of view it is an absolutely commercial operation. But these are the Americans have got up to. We are already on the same sort of level."

Mr Halliwell, speaking to the Broadcasting Press Guild in London, described the bidding for the film *Jaws*, which eventually went to independent television after the BBC dropped out.

He thought the BBC felt it had the advantage because independent television was a clumsy operation with a number of different companies.

"But all it has done is to sharpen our wits wonderfully because of the way they operate. But while they have been making the rules, we have been winning the game."

"It is a kind of business antagonism that did not exist 10 years ago but does exist now."

By letting independent television have *Jaws*, Mr Halliwell said they had handed them an extraordinarily good package "on a plate."

Informed minorities such as doctors, engineers, nuclear experts and trade



Dwarfs' debut: A litter of piglets named after Disney's seven dwarfs being shown by London Zoo staff yesterday. The piglets are from a strain developed in West Germany to grow only a foot tall.

Residents oppose fourth Archway inquiry

By a Staff Reporter

A proposal by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, that there should be a new inquiry into the Archway road-widening scheme in north London has been swiftly opposed by a group of residents.

Mr George Stern, of the Stop the Archway Motorway Plan group, told *The Times* that it would be a blunder for the ministry to hold a fourth inquiry into the scheme "when they have already wasted nearly £1m so far with nothing to show for it on three others."

Inquiries into the proposal to widen a stretch of just over a mile on the A1 from a starting point slightly north of the Archway bridge and heading north were held in 1973, 1976, and 1977.

Mr Howell proposed the new hearing in letters to Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, and to the planning

Papers' merger proposal angers journalists

From Our Midlands Industrial Correspondent, Birmingham

Shareholders arriving at yesterday's annual meeting of BPM Holdings, publishers of *The Birmingham Post* and *Evening Mail*, were lobbied by editorial staff protesting at management plans to integrate jobs on the two newspapers.

Management see it as a way of stemming losses on the morning paper, and permitting it to improve news coverage on the profitable evening.

Members of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ), which represents 120 of the 240 journalists on the two papers, handed copies of a statement to shareholders.

It claimed that if the amalgamation went ahead, *The Birmingham Post* would lose its identity, and expressed the fear that it was the first step to placing out a "respected morning paper and breaking up a group of dedicated journalists."

£1-a-week farmer's son turned to theft

From Our Correspondent Harrogate

A farmer in the Yorkshire Dales paid his son aged 24 wages of £1 a week, a court in Ripon, North Yorkshire, heard yesterday.

John Michael Swales, the bachelor son, who works seven days a week, had to "grovel" for an extra £2 or £3 to go out and, it was said, that turned him into a thief. "It is simply ridiculous," Mr Dennis Carter, chairman of the bench, said.

Mr Swales, of Mansion House Farm, Burnt Yates, Harrogate, admitted stealing hydraulic agricultural equipment worth £500 "possibly as a compensation for his difficulties." Mr Alan Pickard, for the defence, told the court.

Mr Pickard added: "His position is a difficult one, hardly credible in this day and age. It has been known for farmers to take advantage of their children but it is an old-fashioned idea where a grown man works on his parents' farm for only £1 a week."

Mr Swales was given a conditional discharge for three years and ordered to pay compensation of £160.

Mr Carter told him: "Apparently your father does not think much about you or he would have been here. You cannot expect to go straight and lead a decent life. Perhaps the blame is not so much on you as it is on your parents."

At his farm his father, Mr Leonard Swales, said: "Very few young chaps are as well off. He has a third share in our business and has a farm coming to him. Anything he wants he takes out of the business."

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# Scarman on Brixton 1 / Criticisms of policing tempered with support for Metropolitan force



Flashpoint this April: Youths battle with police outside the Windsor Castle public house in Brixton (above) and later (below) firemen comb the smouldering ruins of the pub

## Stance 'between society and a collapse of law and order'

By Lucy Hodges

In his report *The Brixton Disorders 10-12 April 1981* Lord Scarman tempers criticisms of general policing methods, for which he recommends some profound changes, with warm support for the way in which the Metropolitan Police handled the rioting. The report rejects many of the complaints made at the time against the police. It finds that the direction and policies of the force are not racist; that the police did not overreact to the disturbances and that their tactics in the streets during the trouble are to be praised.

It says that the police and personnel of the emergency services "stood between our society and a total collapse of law and order in the streets of an important part of the capital... Let us remember their many excellences even while we note and seek to remedy such defects as there may be."

Lord Scarman, whose terms of reference were "to inquire ungenially" into that weekend of Brixton disorders and to report with a power to make recommendations, also visited the West Midlands and Liverpool after the July riots but was empowered to inquire into them.

His report puts the Brixton riots firmly into the context of racial disadvantage faced by young blacks but says that the police have a critical part to play. "If they neglect consultation and cooperation with the local community, unrest is certain and riots become probable."

The report first analyses the decayed social conditions in Brixton; it notes that its non-white population is higher than the 36 per cent for the whole of the borough of Lambeth, and that in the area at the heart of the rioting half the 19-21 age group of the population is now non-white. Borough social services expenditure in 1979/80 was the highest per capita in England and twice the London average. Ethnic minority unemployment was 25 per cent, compared with the total unemployment at the Brixton employment office in May. None of these provides an excuse for disorder, the report says, however, to ignore complex political and social factors "is to put the nation at peril."

The rioting started on Friday evening, because young blacks "spontaneously" retaliated against police they mistakenly believed were mistreating a man they were assisting after he had been stabbed.

It reignited on Saturday — with some signs of organization and outsider presence, Lord Scarman notes — because of an unwisely conducted arrest by two young officers involved in the anti-mugging police operation code-named "Swamp 81".

In the months before the riots, serious crime in Brixton was increasing, and "street" crime formed a large part of it.

Lord Scarman said that operation Swamp 81, which preceded the riots and was designed to catch robbers and muggers, was "a serious mistake", given the tension which existed between the police and the local community in the early months of this year. It should not have been continued with on the Saturday after the initial fighting on Friday.

He adds that it was unfortunate that the police named the operation Swamp 81, and criticizes Commander Leonard Adams and Commander Brian Fairbairn for an error of judgment in not seeing the need to consult locally before mounting such an operation.

The report says that many young people were spoiling for a fight at the time because of their frustrations and because they thought the Friday night incident, when a black youth who had been stabbed was picked up by police, was another instance of police harassment.

"Many of them were deceived by rumour into thinking that police callousness on the Friday had actually led to the death of the wounded man. The tinder for a major conflagration was there: the arrest outside the S and M car hire office was the spark which set it alight."

"There is no need to probe deeper for the immediate cause of the Saturday riot. I have heard no evidence to suggest that there was any prior organization or conspiracy. There was no plan, no 'Friday' or 'Saturday' police. But many young people were itching to have a go. The spirit of defiance and aggression was in them. Many observers noted their elation as events developed to the disadvantage of the police. They were enjoying themselves."

At the same time, the report thoroughly supports most of the police action in controlling the riots. It indicates the way in which Police Constable Morgan and others tried to help the stabbed youth on the Friday night by giving him first-aid and waiting for an ambulance to arrive.

It rejects the criticism made of them at the subsequent public inquiry. "The officers could properly and reasonably reach the view that it was better to await the ambulance. They had to exercise judgment in a difficult situation. They cannot be faulted for what they did; indeed, I believe they acted correctly."

The heavy police presence in Brixton on Saturday and Sunday was fully justified, contrary to what critics said, the report says. The police were right not to withdraw on the Saturday when they were asked to, and it was not a crucial error, as some had suggested, that the home beat officers were not called into help quell the disturbances.

Lord Scarman strongly defends the police against allegations of racism. "The direction and policies of the Metropolitan Police are not racist. I totally and unequivocally reject the attack made upon the integrity and impartiality of the senior direction of the force."

"The criticisms lie elsewhere — in errors of judgment, in a lack of imagination and flexibility, but not in deliberate bias or prejudice. The allegation that the police are the oppressive arm of a racist state not only displays a complete ignorance of the constitutional position of the police; it is an injustice to the senior officers of the force."

The report is critical of some police behaviour during the disturbances, particularly of two young officers, Police Constables L. Cameron and L. Thornton, who stopped and searched a minicab driver for drugs in Atlantic Road. It was this incident which led to the very serious disorder on the Saturday.

While Lord Scarman says their action in searching the innocent driver was not unlawful, they acted in a tense situation "without the discretion and judgment which mature years might have brought."

He adds: "Perhaps they had become inflamed by their experience of the hostility which police action could arouse in Brixton to the point where they failed to recognize real danger signals or to strike the correct balance between enforcing the law and keeping the peace."

The report concludes that from the weight of evidence there were certain instances in which officers over-reacted during the riots and behaved aggressively, using

excessive force. Particularly worrying were allegations about the use of unlawful weapons.

The report criticizes the police for using dogs to control the crowd on the Friday and Saturday and for beating on their shields with their truncheons "aid shouting in a manner reminiscent of ancient warriors going into battle."

Lord Scarman says: "It was unfortunate, but it is to be remembered that the police were under heavy attack; they needed to preserve their spirits in the face of a ferociously hostile crowd. Such action, though understandable, was unworthy of a disciplined force."

"It was calculated to arouse fear and apprehension in those citizens, some of them no doubt perfectly peaceful, who hear it. Such behaviour, despite extenuating circumstances, must be stopped."

Lord Scarman rejects the argument that the police tried to trap the crowd during the riots and says that far from over-reacting to the disorders, the police were meticulously prepared and ill-equipped to cope with them.

As the Saturday evening riot spread Commander Fairbairn of L district asked for a police helicopter to assist him in overseeing the movements of the crowds but "the helicopter could not be made available because of lack of crew", the report notes without further comment. Little later, in Effra parade the police had to contend with the "a new weapon, spinning plates" as the "hail of bricks, bottles, tiles, pieces of wood, milk crates, scaffold poles and petrol bombs".

"There is little doubt that the disorders revealed weaknesses in the capacity of the police to respond sufficiently firmly to the violence in the streets. On Saturday — the height of the disorders — the rioters had the run of Railton Road and Mayall Road and looting continued unchecked in the shopping centre of Brixton for some three hours before the police had assembled sufficient forces to regain the initiative and quell the disorders."

"It is no criticism of those officers who, under the most fierce attack, held the police lines at the Triangle and, later, near Effra Parade, to say that they were forced by the sheer weight of the attack to adopt a defensive posture, to contain the crowds before they were sufficiently reinforced to disperse them."

"The buildup of officers was slow; it did not really achieve a sustained momentum until after 8 pm on Saturday, some two and a half hours after the serious disorder erupted."

"Other deficiencies in police equipment and preparedness rapidly became apparent. The protective shields and helmets, when they became available, proved inadequate; the helmets provided insufficient protection to the head; the foam padding at the rear of the shields themselves had become cumbersome when caught fire when petrol spilled over them."

"Officers untrained in the use of shields or in the command of men carrying them found themselves thrust into the front line. Officers' uniforms were also ignited by the flames from petrol bombs. Police vehicles were equally unprotected from missile-throwing mobs."

"There were difficulties in radio communication between officers deployed at the scene and police control, and between different units of officers on the ground; notably, it appears doubtful whether at the time of the disorders, the Metropolitan Police were fully aware of

the desperate situation of Chief Superintendent Robinson near Effra Parade."

"Indeed, Commander Adams did not even know that Mr Robinson was in Railton Road near Effra Parade. None of the commanders seems sufficiently to have appreciated the extent to which in moving forward they were inevitably going to put Mr Robinson's safety (a serial in 24 officers) under even greater pressure than they already were."

"There also appear, from the evidence of Mr Butler, a Deputy Assistant Chief Officer of the London Fire Brigade, to have been problems in the early stages of Saturday in establishing effective liaison between the police and the other emergency services."

"It has been suggested by some that after the experience of the disorders in Bristol on April 2, 1980, and the conclusions of the subsequent review, which you, Sir, initiated, of police arrangements for handling serious disorder, the Metropolitan Police should have

been better prepared for the disorders in Brixton than they were. I make no finding on this. I simply point out that the scale of disorder was far in excess of anything until then experienced by the police in Britain and, in particular, that the Metropolitan Police, faced in the petrol bomb and rioter's arsenal, which had not previously been used on any substantial scale, if at all, in the United Kingdom outside Northern Ireland."

Lord Scarman rejects the criticism that the police pincer movement in Railton Road to quell the riot was misguided, and that the scene of the disorder to apprehend the looters who were looting freely.

"Those who looted and damaged property in Brixton deserve the severest condemnation and punishment. The police could not have turned their back on the mayhem in Railton and Mayall Roads, even if the crowd there had been prepared to let them."

"I am satisfied that any delay by the police in stopping the looting arose not from any reluctance to do so but from the fact that

majority of the rioting crowds, would not have used the bomb."

"It is a tribute to their restraint that no one was killed in the suppression of the disorders. Broadly, the police strategy and tactics in handling the disorders are to be commended, not criticized."

"Those who were privileged, as I was, to hear the evidence of a succession of Metropolitan Police officers (senior and junior) and of representatives of the London Fire Brigade, the London Ambulance Service and the British Transport Police during the inquiry will have had many opportunities to marvel at and be thankful for the courage and dedication which was displayed by members of the police and emergency services in Brixton over that terrible weekend."

"They stood between our society and a total collapse of law and order in the streets of an important part of the capital. For that, they deserve, and must receive, the praise and thanks of all sections of our community."

"Before we pass judgment on the quality of our policing, let us remember their many excellences even while we note and seek to remedy such defects as there may be."

Lord Scarman concludes that the disturbances did, in fact, constitute a riot but that they were not premeditated.

"The police commanders felt they had to give priority to the former. I am satisfied that they were right to do so. Any fault lay in an inability to muster adequate numbers of officers, properly trained and equipped, sufficiently quickly rather than in a failure of either of police will or of operational judgment."

Lord Scarman says that nothing can excuse the unlawful behaviour of the rioters. The failures of the police and the community leaders can neither justify nor excuse the disorders "or the terrifying lawlessness of the crowds."

He adds: "The conclusion which I have reached is that, save in one or two respects where the true criticism is that they failed to act in sufficient time or with sufficient force, the police at command level and on the streets acted wisely, coolly, and with commendable re-

straint (though there were some individual exceptions) in a testing, dangerous and alarming situation."

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"Though the evidence is too slight to amount to proof in a court of law, it indicates

plainly enough not only that there was a degree of direction but also that, after the disorders had begun, some strangers participated in the attack upon the police. Some leaders emerged and some used the disorders for the deliberate commission of criminal offences."

The three pieces of evidence suggesting outside involvement were evidence by the Vicar of St Jude's that he saw a "grimly determined" group of black men attack a pub and a news agent's shop on the grounds that "the police had been harassing the black and homosexual communities and that they could stand it no longer."

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The report says that behind some of the criticism of the police lies the power of gossip and rumour. "There must be a temptation for every young criminal, black or white — stopped in the street or arrested in Brixton to allege misconduct by a police officer; indeed, the position may almost have been reached where not to do so is to endanger one's credibility in the eyes of one's friends."

"Moreover, the circumstances in which arrests are made in Brixton — where a 'hostile' crowd normally gathers rapidly at the scene on each occasion — are calculated to produce conflict, ending in accusation and counter-accusation."

"Having entered these cautions, however, I do not doubt that harassment does occur. Stop and search operations, in particular, require courteous and carefully controlled behaviour by the police to those stopped, which I am certain was sometimes lacking."

Lord Scarman says that the police rightly and understandably reply to such allegations by saying they must be tested through the complaints procedure. But many people, particularly ethnic minorities, do not have confidence in the impartiality or efficiency of the system.

"They regard the fact that the police investigate complaints against police officers as proof that the system is not impartial and are not persuaded that the independent scrutiny provided through the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Police Complaints Board is a sufficient safeguard."

"I do not doubt that a significant number of people have such little faith in the system that they do not bother to make formal complaints against the police even when they would be fully justified in doing so."

"I conclude that any system for considering complaints against the police which is subject to the range and weight of criticism I have heard of the present system in the inquiry must be unsatisfactory and ineffective."

"Unless and until there is a system for judging complaints against the police which commands the support of the public, there will be no way in which the atmosphere of distrust and suspicion between the police and the community in places like Brixton can be dispelled."

"There is no doubt that in the period under discussion serious crime in Brixton was increasing and that street crime formed a significant part of crime in the area. The submissions made to me on this point emphasize that statistics — or at least the analysis of statistics — is not necessary to establish that crime, statistics, like any other statistics, need handling with care."

"It may be that to describe the street crime situation in Brixton as 'tumultuous' is to indulge in hyperbole. But the submissions do not explain away the practical impact of the seriousness of the crime problem in L district and in Brixton."

Lord Scarman criticizes the Council for Community Relations in Lambeth and community leaders for the breakdown of relations between the police and the community. "It was not the police who abandoned the liaison committee, but the local leaders."

The decision of the CCRL to withdraw from the committee in February 1979 was no doubt made in good faith, but in my view it was wrong in effect the public body committed to furthering better relations between all sections of the community in Lambeth was thereby refusing to deal officially with an organization — (the police) which it itself saw as jeopardizing those very relations."

Lord Scarman also

criticizes the report of an inquiry set up by Lambeth Council into policing, which it says increased suspicion and particularly the police's sense that they were the constant subject of ill-founded and unbalanced criticism.

Lord Scarman devotes a chapter of his report to the social conditions in Brixton and includes short sections on Southern, Toxteth, Moss Side and the West Midlands. He says that, while there is evidence to suggest that the position of ethnic minorities has improved in inner cities, they suffer from the same deprivations as the "host community" though much more acutely.

"Their lives are led largely in the poorer and more deprived areas of our great cities. Unemployment and poor housing bear on them the weight of the educational system has not adjusted itself satisfactorily to their needs. Their difficulties are intensified by the sense they have of a concealed discrimination against them, particularly in relation to job opportunities and housing."

"Some young blacks are driven by their despair into feeling that they are rejected by the society of which they rightly believe they are members, and in which they would wish to enjoy the same opportunities and to accept the same risks as everyone else."

"But their experience leads them to believe that their opportunities are less and their risks are greater. Young black people feel neither socially nor economically secure."

"In addition they do not feel politically secure. Their sense of rejection is not satisfied by the level of black representation in one elective political institutions. Their sense of insecurity is not relieved by the liberty our law provides to those who march and demonstrate in favour of tougher immigration controls and 'separation' of the blacks. Rightly or wrongly, young black people do not feel politically secure, any more than they feel economically or socially secure."

"The accumulation of these anxieties and frustrations and the limited opportunities of airing their grievances at national level in Britain, they encourage them to protest on the streets. And it is regrettably also true that some are tempted by their deprivations into crime, particularly street crime: robbery, car theft and the like."

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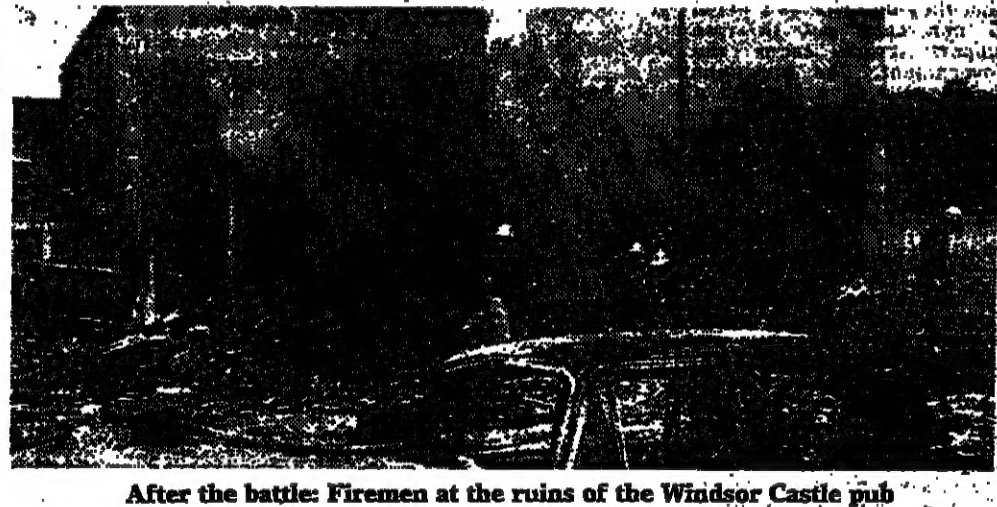
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After the battle: Firemen at the ruins of the Windsor Castle pub

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# Scarman on Brixton 2/Fair and thorough' report provokes favourable reactions



Walkabout: Lord Scarman visiting Brixton in July, gathering facts for himself.

## The recommendations

## Community policing need not inhibit fight against crime

Lord Scarman makes a number of recommendations which cover police methods and training, police-community relations, social policy for the inner city, the treatment by the media, processions, and law reform.

### POLICING

Consultation: Community involvement in the police operation of policing is perfectly feasible without undermining the independence of the police or destroying the secrecy of those operations against crime which have to be kept secret. There is a need to devise means of enabling such involvement. Outside London, Police Authorities can use their existing powers to set up local consultative or liaison committees.

I recommend that a statutory duty should be imposed on Police Authorities and on Chief Officers of Police to co-operate in the establishment of such consultative arrangements.

In London, I do not recommend any change in the law substituting some other body for the Secretary of State as Police Authority. I do, however, recommend that a statutory framework be developed to require local consultation between the Metropolitan Police and the community at Borough or Police District level.

Complaints against police: I find that there is a lack of public confidence in the existing system for considering complaints against the police. I conclude that if public confidence is to be secured, the early introduction of an independent element in the investigation of complaints and the establishment of a conciliation process are vital.

Improvements in police training are in hand. But there is scope for further improvement. In particular the length of the present period of initial training for recruits is insufficient. I recommend that it be increased to a minimum of six months (it is 15 weeks in the Metropolitan Police). The period spent by a recruit on probation after the initial training should include practical training and supervision in the handling of people in situations of potential conflict such as stops in the street, training provided either through a "street studies course" or, preferably, through a tutor or parent constable scheme.

Courses designed to develop the understanding that good community relations are not merely necessary but essential to good policing should, I

recommend, be compulsory from time to time in a police officer's career up to and including the rank of Superintendent. Training in the handling of public disorder should be provided for all ranks up to and including Commander (Assistant Chief Constable).

Monitoring: Young police officers are an unavoidable, indeed valuable, part of the modern police service. The need is not to remove them from sensitive areas but to ensure that they receive proper guidance and supervision. The role of Inspectors and Sergeants in crucial, I recommend that greater attention be given to management training in the supervisory responsibilities of officers of these ranks. Close supervision is particularly important in stop and search type operations.

Discipline: Racially prejudiced or discriminatory behaviour should be included as a specific offence in the Police Discipline Code. I also recommend that it should be understood throughout the police that the normal penalty for racially prejudiced behaviour is dismissal.

Methods of Policing: I find that there will continue to be circumstances in which the use of "hard" policing methods, including the deployment of the Special Patrol Group, is appropriate, even essential. Nevertheless, I conclude by recommending that, in consultation with their Police Authorities and with local community leaders, Chief Officers of Police should re-examine the methods of policing used, especially in inner city areas, with particular reference to:

(1) the pattern of patrolling, especially the mix of foot and mobile patrols;

(2) the role of the Home Beat Officers, with particular emphasis on ways in which they can be integrated more effectively into the mainstream of operational policing;

(3) the provision of opportunities for operational officers to get to know the community they are policing;

(4) ways of ensuring greater continuity and a balanced spread of officers of different ages in more sensitive inner city areas.

Recruiting: Vigorous efforts should be made to recruit more blacks to the Police. At present there are only 132 in the Metropolitan Police, 0.5 per cent of the Force. A possible way forward may lie in the provision of special additional training for would-be black entrants to the Police.

This drive—which must be given very high priority—must

be conducted not simply through advertising but by means of personal contact through schools, youth clubs, unemployment offices and wherever else young black people are to be found.

I recommend that the work currently being undertaken in the Metropolitan Police designed to identify scientific ways in which evidence of racial prejudice can be identified (in recruits) should be vigorously pursued with the support of the Home Office and that the results should be due course be incorporated in the procedures for selecting new recruits to all police forces.

Disorder: I recognize the importance, and necessity, that such equipment as water cannon, CS gas, and plastic bullets should be available in reserve to police forces. I recommend that such equipment should not be used except in a grave emergency—that is, in circumstances in which there is a real apprehension of loss of life—and then only on the authority of the Chief Officer of Police himself.

### DISORDERS AND SOCIAL POLICY

Any attempt to resolve the circumstances from which the disorders of this year sprang cannot be limited to recommendations about policing but must embrace the wider social context in which policing is carried out.

The inner city: The failure of the many attempts over the last three decades to tackle the problem of inner city decline successfully is striking. One of the reasons for this, I suggest, is the lack of an effective co-ordinated approach to tackling inner city problems. I conclude that much could be done to achieve a better co-ordinated and directed attack on inner city problems, and I recommend action to achieve it.

The ethnic minorities: I draw attention to three particular areas: (1) housing; (2) education; (3) employment.

Educational provision: There are four areas for improvement. These are the provision of facilities for under-fives; the training of teachers in the particular needs, the cultural background, and the expectations of minority group children and parents; the teaching of English to the children of parents, and of black parents in particular, in the work of the schools. I suggest that the time has come for a Government initiative in ethnic minority education.

Ethnic needs: If alienation among the black community is not to develop, there should be

Police, that it has already begun. But determination and persistence in the formulation and application of the necessary policies will be required. I would add that an equal persistence in striving to the same end is also required of all sections of the responsibly minded public.

On the social front, I find myself broadly in agreement with the House of Commons Select Committee. The attack on racial disadvantage must be more direct than it has been. It must be coordinated by central government, who with local authorities must ensure that the funds made available are directed to specific areas of racial disadvantage. I have in mind particularly education and employment. A policy of direct coordinated attack on racial disadvantage inevitably means that the ethnic minorities will enjoy for a time a positive discrimination in their favour. But it is a price worth paying if it accelerates the elimination of the unsettling factor of racial disadvantage from the social fabric of the United Kingdom. I believe this task to be even more urgent than the task of establishing on a permanent basis good

By Peter Evans and Frances Gibb

Sir David McNeen, Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police, yesterday welcomed Lord Scarman's report as fair and thorough, and acknowledged that "some of the criticisms must be right."

In an interview on Thames Television he said that if there were lessons to be learned by the police, they would be taken and acted upon.

"My message is that good will is required on both sides. The community have to come towards the police and the police towards the community."

The Brixton community need not have a fear of lack of confidence in the police, he said. "My commander in Brixton and all his officers are most anxious to go alongside with the community and work with them."

The police had already taken steps to deal with some of the problems highlighted by Lord Scarman "by training, by good supervision and by good leadership and we hope to do a great deal more."

Since he came to London five years ago, Sir David said the number of black and Asian police officers had risen from 70 to 140 but he agreed that

□ The national police representative organizations yesterday

accepted the proposals in Lord Scarman's report with some reservations, but those that they were prepared to discuss constructively.

Mr Barry Pain, Chief Constable of Kent and president of the Association of Chief Police Officers, last night accepted that the police were partly to blame for what took place throughout the country. He was speaking as president, for what happened outside London, he said.

"Yes, we accept there were mistakes in policing. There was a breakdown of trust between the local authorities and central government had to remove the breeding ground of discontent in inner city areas."

Mr John Alderson, Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall, who has been a foremost advocate for community policing, the need for which Lord Scarman accepts, said the report was a "last chance to salvage all that was best in the British police tradition."

"The concept of policing by consent is too valuable to let go by," he said. "A great moral responsibility now lies on all concerned to adopt the spirit of Lord Scarman's major contribution to the history of policing our country."

Referring to his own evidence he said the critical issue was that consultative arrangements should be statutory and not left to voluntary initiative. That he had accepted and was recommending.

"I am pleased with the report."

There was a difference of opinion between the reaction of the Police Federation and that of the Association of Chief Police Officers and Superintendents' Association to the recommendation that there should be a specific discipline offence of racial prejudice.

The chief police officers and superintendents accepted "the principle though they foresaw some practical difficulties in drafting it."

But Mr James Jardine, chairman of the Police Federation which represents 120,000 officers up to the rank of chief inspector, said he did not think it was necessary to make racial prejudice a disciplinary offence with dismissal as a penalty. He said the present code already covered the offence of bringing the police into disrepute, which would include prejudice.

Referring to the call for more consultation with the community, Mr Jardine said that one of the worries he had talked about was that "we don't want to see political interference by local authorities in the running of the police service. We think the police chief

should have the authority to do what he wants in each area."

The police chief line was that there was already much consultation between the police and community leaders.

With the superintendents they promised that ways of extending that consultation would be pursued actively.

Mr Jardine said it would be an absolute tragedy if police had to discontinue certain operations to the local community before they took place.

The federation accepted the need for more training. British police received less basic training than any other police in the EEC. Mr Jardine did not reject out of hand Lord Scarman's recommendation that there should be a conciliation process between the police and complainant when the complaint was minor. But the idea would have to be looked at closely. It would not be right for a policeman's record to be blemished without a proper hearing.

Asked if the report would enable the Federation to bury the hatchet with Lady Stoney, chairman of the Metropolitan Police Authority, Mr Jardine said at first: "I don't think we shall ever see eye to eye."

Then he added: "Maybe we will. We get on very well."

## Scarman press conference: Confident aura

By Lucy Hodges

Lord Scarman appeared confident yesterday that his report, if implemented, would prevent outbreaks of further riots and indicated without saying so that money should be pumped into Brixton.

At a press conference to launch his report, he said he would be campaigning to ensure that his recommendations were implemented if the Government decided not to accept them in full. "It's not for me to take any part in political activity," he said.

But he did add, in response to a question on the resource implications, that it would be very sad if money was not spent on implementing his recommendations. "It would slow up the process which I believe is inevitable of reconciliation in Brixton. Brixton is not an unhappy place but it is disturbed."

He reiterated the point made in the report that positive discrimination was needed in favour of black people. "Some special opportunities will have to be given to the ethnic minorities if they are going to be able to develop sufficient strengths to compete on a level with the so-called 'host' community."

"This does not mean that they have got to have privileges, it doesn't really mean that they are going to have quotas in their favour or any of the disagreeable features in positive discrimination. It does mean they have got to be helped."

Lord Scarman repeated the main thesis of his report—that he was not making sweeping criticisms of the police but that he was pointing to errors of judgment. "The police record is like the curate's egg, bad in parts," he said.

He criticized the "Swamp" police operation, mounted the week before the riots to catch robbers and muggers in Lambeth, for its timing not for its concept. "To that extent, the police were out of touch," he said.

The Special Patrol Group was necessary as a mobile reserve force. "It is not an elite and I am not aware either from evidence in the Red Lion Square inquiry or from evidence in Brixton that the SPG officers were particularly harassing or troublesome."

"Of course, local people thought they were. An immense myth about the SPG has developed. What consultation will do is to get people into the act of discussing with the police whether the SPG should be brought in."

He was confident that the consultation machinery he was recommending between police and the community could work, but added that in some circumstances the police had to preserve secrecy, where they were combating organized crime and terrorism. But he was critical of the police for not having consulted on the mounting of SPG operations in the past.

## Community leaders: broadly in favour

By David Nicholson-Lord

Reaction to the report from community leaders in Brixton yesterday was broadly favourable, despite a strong undercurrent of disappointment and dissatisfaction amongst the younger and more radical black people.

A typical reaction among the older generation was that of Mr Rene Webb, director of the Melting Pot Foundation, who described the report as fair and welcomed its proposals on police training and job opportunities for young people. Lambeth's principle community relations officer, meanwhile described the report as a reasonable summary of Brixton's difficulties, adding that it had said much that we had hoped for in relation to policing.

The severest criticism came from the Labour-controlled Lambeth Council, whose Left-wing leader, Mr Ted Knight, called a press conference to declare that he was "bitterly disappointed" by the report and to denounce it as vague, platitudinous and misleading contribution to the problems of Lambeth.

Lord Scarman, said Mr Knight, was telling Brixton nothing new. "It is no good giving us a potted history of what we all know without talking about the lack of resources we need to tackle it," he added.

Among Mr Knight's criticisms was that the report virtually commended "paramilitary policing," proposed police-community liaison machinery which had proved a farce elsewhere and made no worthwhile proposals in the field of economic and social policy.

His emphases were shared by Mr Devon Thomas, a spokesman for the Brixton Defence Campaign, who said the report confirmed the worst fears of critics of police action in that it would avoid the central issues.

"Scarman has legitimized the action that the police took in April, and anybody who does not obviously cannot have any feelings for what has been happening on the streets around here for years," he said.

"It won't surprise the kids on the street. This is what they expected."

One point made in the report, Lord Scarman's rebuttal of the allegation that racism was institutionalized in Britain, received widespread condemnation. Mr Herman Ouseley, Lambeth's principal race relations adviser, who is soon to take over the newly created senior race relations job with the Greater London Council, said this made the report "fundamentally flawed."

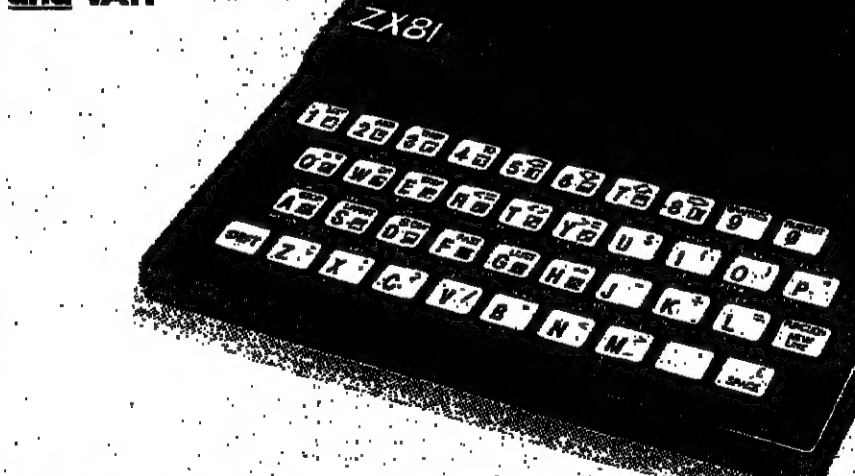
He added: "If you don't appreciate the problem, how can you deal with it? There is nothing new in this report. Lord Scarman has never met the real people here because the real people never trusted him."

Mr Webb, whose Melting Pot office was near the centre of the April disturbances, said he supported many of the recommendations on police training, notably those on raising the minimum training period to six months and on providing more experience of multi-racial communities for young constables and better supervision by senior officers. "The kind of training they have had was for a society with no blacks living in it, and this causes a lot of misunderstanding, especially with young blacks. The training has got to be brought up to date," he said.

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The outcome is not just a computer, but the heart of a computer system. As your skills and needs develop, your ZX81 keeps pace. You can add 16 times more memory with the Sinclair 16K-byte RAM pack.

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## The conclusion

## We must eliminate society's flaws

This is how Lord Scarman rounds off his report.

The evidence which I have received, the effect of which I have outlined leaves no doubt in my mind that racial disadvantage is a fact of current British life. It was, I am equally sure, a significant factor in the causation of the Brixton disorders. Urgent action is needed if it is not to become an endemic, intractable disease threatening the very survival of our society. It would be unfair to criticize Government for lack of effort. The real question is whether the effort, which is undoubtedly being properly directed, funding (eg grants pursuant to section 11, Local Government Act 1966, the Urban Programme and the Inner City Partnership scheme) has been made available on a substantial scale. The administrative effort of central and local government has been equally substantial: an illustration is to be found in Lambeth itself where the work done by the Borough Council and central government to relieve racial disadvantage deserves high praise. And, though the Race Relations Act 1976 and the CRE have their critics, they are clear evidence of the will and the commitment of Parliament

and government to the cause of racial equality. Institutional racism does not exist in Britain: but racial disadvantage and its nasty associate racial discrimination, have not yet been eliminated. They poison minds and attitudes: they are, and so long as they remain, will continue to be, a potent factor of unrest.

The role of the police has to be considered against this background. As I have said, the police do not create social deprivation or racial disadvantage: they are not responsible for the disadvantages of the ethnic minorities. Yet their role is critical. If their policing is such that it can be seen to be the application to our new society of the traditional principles of British policing, the risk of unrest will diminish and the prospect of approval by all responsible elements in our ethnically diverse society will be the greater. If they neglect consultation and cooperation with the local community, unrest is certain.

A new approach is required. I am satisfied, as Mr Haran QC submitted in his final speech on behalf of the Metropolitan

Police, that it has already begun. But determination and persistence in the formulation and application of the necessary policies will be required. I would add that an equal persistence in striving to the same end is also required of all sections of the responsibly minded public.

On the social front, I find myself broadly in agreement with the House of Commons Select Committee. The attack on racial disadvantage must be more direct than it has been. It must be coordinated by central government, who with local authorities must ensure that the funds made available are directed to specific areas of racial disadvantage. I have in mind particularly education and employment. A policy of direct coordinated attack on racial disadvantage inevitably means that the ethnic minorities will enjoy for a time a positive discrimination in their favour. But it is a price worth paying if it accelerates the elimination of the unsettling factor of racial disadvantage from the social fabric of the United Kingdom. I believe this task to be even more urgent than the task of establishing on a permanent basis good

relations between the ethnic minorities and the police.

Good policing will be of no avail, unless we also tackle and eliminate basic flaws in our society. And, if we succeed in eliminating racial prejudice from our society, it will not be difficult to achieve good policing.

I end with a quotation from President Johnson's address to the nation, which appears at the very beginning of the US Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders (1968): "The only genuine, long-range solution for what has happened lies in an attack—mounted at every level—upon the conditions that breed violence and violence. All of us know what those conditions are: ignorance, discrimination, slums, poverty, disease, not enough jobs. We should attack these conditions—not because we are frightened by conflict, but because we are fired by conviction that there is simply no other way to achieve a decent and orderly society in America."

These words are as true of Britain today as they have been proved by subsequent events to be true of America.

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6,000 mile main servicing 'a thing of the past'

## MOTORISTS CHEER AS SERVICING COSTS GO DOWN

By our MOTORING Correspondent

ALL OVER the country, Morris Ital drivers are celebrating the demise of 6,000 mile main servicing. Now that 12,000 mile main servicing is the order of the day for all manual transmission models in this new range of cars, owners are rejoicing while non-owners grumble.

Reports have been received of proud new owners peering gloatingly over the garden fence as their neighbours mournfully trudge off towards their cars to take them in for twice the number of main services.

The Morris Ital was the first car in the BL range to drop the 6,000 mile oil change. The engine oil now only needs to be changed at 12,000 miles or 12 months, thanks to improved oil filtration.

### 'Doubling the Intervals'

Longer-life giant electrode spark plugs are fitted to all Ital engines, doubling the intervals between setting and cleaning. Self-cleaning sliding contact points in the distributor limit corrosion and need replacement after 24,000 miles instead of the customary 12,000 miles.

A major contributor to reduced servicing costs is the light-emitting diode equipment that helps mechanics set the timing in record-quick time with unsurpassed accuracy. A full service now takes a third of the usual time, cutting labour costs to a minimum.

Already, competitive car manufacturers are said to be eyeing these advances with mixed emotions of envy and interest. But whatever plans they may have up their sleeves, the new Morris Ital—with twice the stretch of road between services—is in Morris showrooms right now.

## Britain develops new paint system

Europeans go green

A NEW metallic paint process means that the new Morris Ital will be one of the best finished cars on the road. On all metallic colours, five coats of paint are bonded to each car, followed by two coats of clear lacquer. The result is not just a deeper colour, but a car completely proofed against the elements.

### 'UNDERSEALED'

"Skin-deep beauty?" added a paint-shop spokesman. "Not a bit of it! Every car is fully undersealed to protect it against abrasion and corrosion, primed, sealed, and coated with stove-baked layers of paint.

Even the doors, body sills, and cross-members are injected with non-setting weather-proof long-life wax protection!"

### 'HAND FINISH'

Moving round the paint shop we noticed that once

the sophisticated painting machines had finished their work, each car was inspected and finished by hand.

We asked one of the men how much paint went on each car. "Four gallons, at the very least."

he replied. We have a saying here: 1.7 litres underneath, 2.5 litres over the top. No wonder some of our European competitors are turning 40 shades of green!"

## ADVERTISEMENT

## Ital shoots high in popularity polls

By our PUBLIC OPINION Correspondent

Now one of Britain's top-selling cars

WHILE the Morris Ital has only just celebrated its first birthday, figures released after nine months of sales this year indicate that this new car has rapidly won itself a place in the hearts of British motorists.

WITH sales over 43,000 to the end of September, the Ital is now one of Britain's top-selling cars.

Asked to comment, Morris spokesman said: "This is only the start of the good news. With the improvements we've introduced for 1982 the only way to go is up..."

He drew attention to the bright new tweed seats and new side stripes for the HL models, and matt black front and rear bumpers which give all Ital in the range a sportier look.

### BACKACHE ON DECREASE SAYS BRITISH DOCTOR

Fewer and fewer patients are expected in doctors' waiting rooms this year complaining of "front seat driver's cramp".

## 'Car insurance costs take a nose-dive'

CITY EDITOR REPORTS

IT'S GOOD news for Morris Ital purchasers: compared with other cars in its class, insurance costs are considerably less.

For example, while the Ital 1.3 is categorised in insurance group 2, the Escort is right up in group 3 or even 4. Even the smaller Renault 5's demands a heavier insurance premium than the 1.3 Ital.

Insurance a year with a 60% no-claims bonus. Driving an Escort 1.6 the same driver would be asked for an annual premium of £149, a penalty of £50.

"Frankly," a 1.7 Ital driver commented, "I can't under-

# At least there's one page in this paper crammed with good news.



THIS YEAR, says a fashion expert, the best-dressed cars will be wearing tweed. Which makes the Morris

Ital an early winner in the fashion stakes. The Ital HL model in the 1982 range will come with textured tweed seat facings for brighter and softer interiors. The fabrics come in three shades: Savannah, Paprika and Black. Example A fashion spokesman for Morris explained: "Even the French will have to look to their laurels when they survey the interior of the Ital. The day of the boring car interior will soon be over when more companies follow the example of the Ital. Brightness and softness is 'in'... drabness is definitely 'out'". In the HL model, the seat material is ribbed and plain knit-backed velour for even more comfort and luxury. Door panels are cloth trimmed with a top vinyl roll, as are the headrests and seat backs. The rear seat in the saloon has a central foldaway armrest in matching fabric.

## LATE NEWS

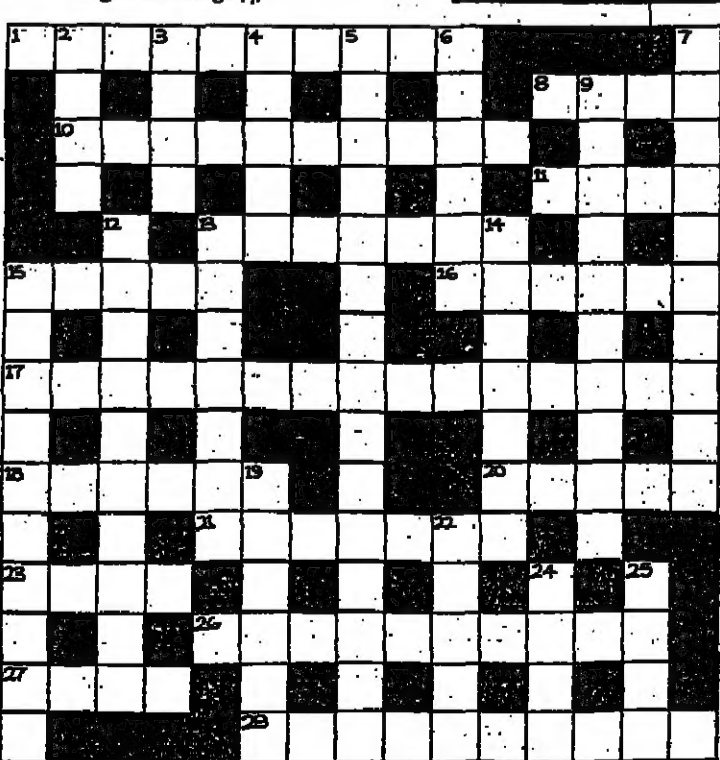
## FORD PRICES GO UP AGAIN!

The Ford Motor Company announce price increases of up to 4% effective from November 10th 1981.

## CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

- 1 Chestnut punch gets the Ital going! (10)
- 8 Let go—no charge (4)



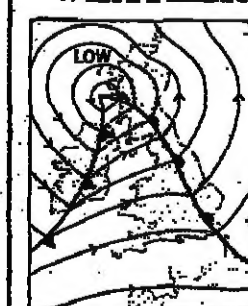
- 18 Confused stride leads to the worst possible straits (6)
- 20 Knobs and rocks (5)
- 21 Lipped and said goodbye? Anti-freeze will do it (4, 3)
- 23 Eden's gardener (4)
- 26 It's put into the Ital at springtime in Cowley (10)
- 27 Pass this river to get your driving license (4)
- 28 Confused master takes bewildered step: he needs these! (6, 4)

### DOWN

- 2 Grease paints (1)
- 3 Herb is a wise man (4)
- 4 Part of clutch is confused with part of a flower (5)
- 5 Its play stops driving rain (10, 5)
- 6 Courses for the driver go underground, it's said (6)
- 7 Destroyed our ancestors, we hear, to get the planes (10)
- 9 He's dedicated to a smooth ride for every car (10)
- 12 TV series gives Ital driver four choices (10)
- 13 Dealer in stocks? (7)
- 14 A horn—or a mound (7)
- 15 The SDP—essential for all drivers (5, 5)
- 19 Thus Mr. Muddle plays guitar (6)
- 22 They carry arms to the front (5)
- 24 Laminate made by stars (4)
- 25 A bargain like the Ital—or action by its upholsterer (4)

- 10 Thing I plug about at the time darkness descends (8, 2)
- 11 Pony-cart reverses to give the Ital a spare (4)
- 13 He opens his raincoat to reveal indicator (7)
- 15 Italy's highest points! (5)
- 16 It's often smoked in Scotland (6)
- 17 Compartment for wind and brass in the Ital? (10, 5)

## WEATHER



Even on a day like this, Ital's body seam sealing, wax injection and underbody coating will keep rust at bay, whilst even the fiercest rainstorms will fail to generate the new paint finish on every Ital.

LIGHTING-UP TIMES When to switch on your Ital Quartz Halogen headlights.

stand it. After all, the Ital is faster on the road than the Mercedes 200, the Saab 900 GLS, the Talbot Solara 1.6SX, yet it costs a darn sight less to insure. The insurance companies must have made a mistake.

A doctor said: "If only all car seats were designed like those in the Morris Ital, more British drivers would be able to stand up straight and face the world."

The Morris Ital seats have been designed around the principle that there's no such thing as the average body: the driving seat can be adjusted to two-hundred-and-sixty-six positions so that each individual driver can find the perfect position to give his back the support it needs right down to the base of the spine.

As a result, even long journeys won't become a pain in the neck.

## Britain overtakes Germany and Sweden

Staff Reporter

IN A SERIES of acceleration tests by the AA the new Morris Ital 1.7 HL got a great view of the Mercedes 200 and the Saab 900 GLS—in its rear view mirror!

engines are astonishingly silent. At tickover, the engine is almost inaudible.

Top of the charts The performance figures look even better when set against its fuel economy: in the case of the Ital 1.7 HL, 40 mpg at 56 mph.

Top of the performance charts is the Ital 2.0 automatic, where its 0-60 acceleration of 12.3 seconds and top speed of over 100 mph\*\*\* contrasts with economy figures that would put many a 1600cc manual car to shame. On average, the Ital is the most economical 2.0-litre car available in the UK.

Which is particularly bad news for anyone who has just bought a Mercedes or Saab. And particularly good news for everyone who delayed his decision until the arrival of the 1982 range of high performance Morris Itals!

## Morris announce stay-low prices for NEW Ital range

"We're determined to maintain the best value on the road," a Morris spokesman said while introducing the new range of Morris Itals. "Rumour has it that other companies plan big increases any day now, but not us."

Prices for the new range are as follows:

ITAL 1.3L	£24199
ITAL 1.7L	£24446
ITAL 1.3HL	£24499
ITAL 1.7HL	£24745
ITAL 1.7HLS	£25199
ITAL 2.0HLS	£25300
ITAL 1.3L Est.	£24686
ITAL 1.7L Est.	£24899
ITAL 1.7HLS Est.	£25199
ITAL 2.0HLS Est.	£26200

Please send me some more good news about the Morris Ital.

(I WOULDN'T MIND THE SOLUTION TO THE CROSSWORD AT THE SAME TIME!)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Send to: Ital Information Services, Department T1, PO Box 4, Oxford OX4 2PP. For Fleet Enquiries, phone: 021 778 4484.

\*Government fuel figures mpg (L/100km). Ital 1.3 manual, urban 31.7 (8.9), 56mpg 45.0 (6.2), 75mpg 34.0 (8.3), 17 manual urban 30.0 (8.4), 58mpg 40.1 (7.1), 75mpg 30.1 (10.0), 2.0HLS automatic, urban 30.4 (8.3), 58mpg 40.0 (7.1), 75mpg 30.2 (8.3). \*\*Performance figures 'What Car?'. \*\*\*Manufacturers data. †Source of insurance figures, leading car insurance broker. ‡Source SMMT. \*Official AA observed 0-60mph acceleration tests. All prices correct at time of going to press. Delivery and number plates extra.

A QUALITY PRODUCT WITH SUPERCOVER FROM MORRIS



## Israel may seek change in terms for Sinai force

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Nov 25

Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, were both reported to have told separate private meetings today that Israel will reject European participation in the Sinai peace-keeping force under the terms laid down this week.

Earlier, Mr Abba Eban, the opposition Labour spokesman on foreign affairs, said in an interview with *The Times* that there was "a spontaneous consensus" throughout Israel that the participation of troops from Britain, France, Italy and Holland should not be accepted without a change in the conditions published on Monday.

Mr Eban added that, although the conditions were issued in the form of a four-power document, there was an impression in Israel that "it was a central British responsibility, both because Britain has the chairmanship of the EEC and because we understand that most of the negotiation hinged upon Britain."

Referring to the decision of the four governments to add separate, similar statements to their basic conditions for joining the force, Mr Shamir said:

"That was gratuitous because the peace-keeping function is a limited function. There is no more reason to go on talking about the Palestinians and the PLO than there is to start a discussion about Nicaragua and Cuba. What the hell has it got to do with it?"

The reports of remarks made by Mr Begin to the American Ambassador in Israel and by Mr Shamir to a group of five visiting American Congressmen have reinforced the impression that the Israeli Cabinet will vote to veto European participation when it meets on Sunday.

## New Zealand will join

From Our Correspondent, Wellington, Nov 25

New Zealand is to link with Australia in a joint contribution to the Sinai peace-keeping force, Mr Geoffrey Muldoon, the Prime Minister, announced today. They would provide a common air unit operated with helicopters.

Mr Muldoon gave no hint of the size of the force but indicated the Australians would predominate. The New Zealanders would not be fulfilling a combatant role in the accepted sense, he said.

It is known that Wellington had some reservations about a New Zealand presence because of possible repercussions among Arab states with which this country is setting up lucrative markets for mutton, wool and cheese.



## Begin asks university for pledge

From Moshe brilliant Tel Aviv, Nov 25

Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, said today that Bir Zeit University, closed earlier this month by the West Bank military government, will be allowed to reopen if its president promises to restrain students from throwing stones, incendiary bombs and hand grenades at Arabs and Jews.

"Students are for study, not for murder," Mr Begin told the Knesset in Jerusalem. He said that if the students continue criminal acts the university, the largest in the West Bank, will remain closed.

Dr Gabi Baram, acting president of the university, replied later: "I can provide undertakings concerning what goes on inside the college walls, but what happens outside is beyond my control. No university president can provide such guarantees."

Mr Begin's statement was in reply to opposition criticism of the military government's repressive measures.

## Arab summit collapses over Saudi Middle East plan

From Godfrey Morrison, Fez, Morocco, Nov 25

The Arab League summit meeting, here, scheduled to last three days, collapsed after only five-and-a-half hours tonight broken on the Arab world's deep disagreement on the Saudi Arabian formula for Middle East peace.

King Hassan of Morocco, the host, announced that the summit had been "suspended" and that a further meeting would be held here at a date which has not been announced.

This would be prepared by a foreign ministers' meeting, for which dates have also not been announced.

Observers here said this unprecedented curtailment of an Arab League summit came as a severe blow not only to the Arab world but also to Saudi Arabia's diplomatic efforts, which were set back to Saudi Arabia whose Fahd plan was its first major diplomatic initiative in the Arab affairs.

The collapse of the Fez summit will certainly lead to a new round of international recriminations. Already delegates from some hard-line states are saying that the Saudis did not adequately prepare the ground for their talks, that consultations with other Arab states were not sufficiently thorough.

Elsewhere the Fez diplomatic debacle will no doubt be welcomed, not only by Israel for whom almost any Arab embarrassment is good news, but in Egypt where the failure of the Fahd plan will be seen by President Mubarak's government as providing further justification for pursuing the Camp David process.

The Egyptians are frequently accused of having abandoned the Arab cause to which Cairo spokesmen have often replied in effect: "Which Arab cause?"

Tonight's stark revelation of the divisions in the Arab world will give this line of argument added force. Among the hard-liners, such as Libya, Iraq, and Syria, tonight's dramatic events are taken as a victory for what they see as their uncompromising, and, as a determination not to allow

## Change of heart in Pretoria South Africa lends Zimbabwe engines

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Nov 25

In a sharp break with precedent, a Zimbabwe Cabinet minister today confirmed that South Africa had loaned 26 locomotives for use on the railway system joining the two countries, and thanked Pretoria for assistance with transport difficulties.

The speech, by Mr Josiah Chinamano, the Minister of Transport, to a seminar here marks a significant departure from recent government statements of South Africa and appears to give substance to speculation that a new tone of pragmatism has entered relations between the two countries.

One of the reasons often cited by local sources for the antagonism that has characterized relations since the beginning of the year was the withdrawal by the South African authorities of 25 locomotives on loan to Zimbabwe. This added to transport problems at a time of increasing import/export demand.

The cost in lost exports is estimated to be running currently at about £4m a week.

The fact that South Africa has agreed to the return of these locomotives is taken by independent sources here as a sign that Western powers, such as the United States, have indicated to Pretoria that they are displeased with attempts to undermine the economies of the frontline states.

South Africa is known to have offered transport assistance some months ago, but only if Zimbabwe would agree to talks at ministerial level. Salisbury rejected the offer on the grounds that it would be a humiliation to accept.

South Africa is frequently invoked by African governments as an example of seeking to exploit the majority why the expectations of independence have not yet been met.

While Western sources believe that South Africa has been wielding its economic power in an attempt to influence government policy here, they are also concerned that undue emphasis has been placed on efforts by Pretoria to destabilize Zimbabwe and other frontline states.

Authoritative sources have been saying for some time that South Africa has been more co-operative in a disinterested way. Political differences have acknowledged.

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## House of Lords

### Claim after trial an abuse of process

Hunter v Chief Constable of the West Midlands Police and Others. Before Lord Diplock, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Roskill and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook. [Speeches delivered November 19]

The House of Lords held that it would be an abuse of the process of the High Court to permit a man serving a life sentence for murder to bring a claim for damages for assault when there had already been a final decision against the prisoner in a criminal court of competent jurisdiction on the same issue of assault.

Their Lordships dismissed an interlocutory appeal by Robert Hunter, serving a sentence of life imprisonment, from the Court of Appeal, who had allowed the prisoner to bring a claim for damages for assault when there had already been a final decision against the prisoner in a criminal court of competent jurisdiction on the same issue of assault.

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## Law Report November 26 1981

### Whether unused name can be protected

My Kinda Bones Ltd (trading as Chicago Rib Shack) and Others v Pepper's Stove Co Ltd (trading as Manhattan Rib Shack) and Another. Before Mr Justice Slade. [Judgment delivered November 19]

His Lordship refused to strike out the plaintiff's statement of claim on the ground that it disclosed a sufficient good will and reputation with intending customers to entitle them to an injunction restraining the defendant from opening a restaurant including in its name the phrase "rib shack".

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## NZ voters are disenchanted with all parties

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington, Nov 25

New Zealand goes to the polls in a general election on Saturday and the mood of the country suggests that it will be glad when it is over. The campaign has failed to generate the usual political enthusiasm.

If the electorate appears unmoved, the reason may have less to do with apathy than with a disenchantment with the contending parties. With opinion polls showing as much as 20 per cent of the voters either undecided or unwilling to declare themselves, prediction is hazardous.

Those same polls have had Mr Robert Muldoon's ruling National Party in front through its main opposition, the Labour Party, appears to be closing the gap.

The National Party looks safe enough on paper with a 10-seat majority over Labour in the 52-member Parliament. However, a 1 per cent swing in six electorates could turn it out of office.

Complicating the picture further will be the impact of the Social Credit League campaigning in all 92 constituencies on a policy of monetary reform. It held two seats in the old Parliament and under the leadership of the personable Bruce Beetham is confident of improving its position to hold the balance of power.

This possibility is being widely canvassed. National Party seats, particularly in some rural areas, look more vulnerable. Social Credit than to Labour.

Mr Wallace Rowling, the Labour leader, is fighting for his political survival. He needs to lead his party to victory to secure his own position which was seriously undermined a year ago by crises within the parliament and caucus who believed his diffident, accommodating style ill suited to defeating the combative Mr Muldoon.

Mr Rowling has been working hard from the platform to convey an image of strength and resolution. Ironically, the usually bristling Mr Muldoon has been low key though this week has seen the reappearance of something of his old aggressive style.

The Prime Minister is still the wily campaigner, having channelled debate toward future development and away

from an examination of the Government's performance. After two successive three-year terms of National Party Government there is little evidence of Muldoon, the economic miracle worker as he was once promoted by his party.

Unemployment at 5 per cent of the work force is the overriding worry of the electorate according to the polls. Inflation is 15 per cent. Growth is practically nil and the current overseas deficit as of June was £725m.

The Government puts the lion's share of the blame for present difficulties down to the oil shock. The cost of imported fuel has jumped from £500m in 1978 to a projected £1,150m this year, or 10 per cent of total export earnings.

The Labour promise with the broadest appeal is an undertaking to cut taxes. Mr Muldoon has been under considerable pressure to himself from elements within his own party to restructure the tax system to afford relief for income earners. The Government has set up a committee which will report next year on taxation reform.

Meanwhile, Labour offers a £80m tax reduction, much of it to the benefit of the family man but not all of it forthcoming immediately. It would be financed substantially by a 6 per cent surcharge on the purchase of foreign exchange, a device meant to stimulate domestic activity. The levy would yield about £520m on present figures.

Nothing in the Labour manifesto suggests that a Rowling Government would undertake radical departures from the mixed economy which the present Administration also favours. Nor would a change of government heralding alterations in foreign policy. Foreign relations have barely earned a mention on the hustings.

Both the National and Labour parties are committed to Anzias, the defence partnership with Australia and the United States, though Labour under constituency pressure would oppose the presence of nuclear-powered or nuclear-armed United States warships in New Zealand ports.

The present state of the parties in National 50, Labour 40, Social Credit 2.

## Turkey is warned over EEC assistance

By David Cross

The British government, in its role as current president of the EEC Council of Ministers, has issued a veiled warning to the military regime in Turkey that its recent behaviour may lead to the cutting off of economic aid from the Community.

During a meeting with Mr Rahmi Gönültaş, the Turkish Ambassador in London earlier this week, Mr Humphrey Atkins, the Lord Privy Seal, emphasized the widespread concern among members of the European Parliament about the recent jail sentence imposed in Ankara on Mr Bülent Ecevit, the former Turkish Prime Minister.

Mr Ecevit is about to spend four months in prison for violating a military decree banning former political figures from making public statements.

Mr Atkins, who is the British government's chief spokesman on foreign affairs in the House of Commons, pointed out to the Turkish ambassador that EEC member governments were unable to approve the next instalment of community aid without the formal endorsement of the European Parliament.

Under the EEC aid agreement Turkey is entitled to receive some \$140m (about £70m) a year during the current five-year period.

Mr Atkins added that the British Government greatly regretted that Mr Ecevit's prison sentence had been upheld on appeal by the Ankara martial law court. This decision cast some doubt on the military regime's oft-repeated promise of an early return to democracy, a foreign office spokesman said.



Home on the ranch: President Reagan and his wife Nancy ride out on their California ranch while giving Barbara Walters, the television interviewer, a conducted tour for a new programme.

## Britain to face European court over chicken ban

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Nov 25

The European Commission is to take Britain before the European Court of Justice over the chicken and egg import barrier imposed by new British health regulations at the beginning of September.

The regulations, which establish a so-called "slaughter policy" to deal with any outbreaks of Newcastle disease fowl pest, mean that no birds vaccinated against the disease can be imported into Britain. In future, any flock believed to be contaminated would be killed to prevent the disease spreading, while vaccinated birds are regarded

## ATHENS IN THE GRIP OF SMOG

Athens, Nov 26

The yellowish-brown cloud of smog that hugs Athens on windless days was still there today despite emergency measures ordered by the Government to reduce the discharge of smoke by industries, quarries, cars and central heating.

The authorities admitted that smoke levels in the city at peak traffic hour this morning were as high as yesterday, causing a public health hazard far above alert level.

Some 65 factories in the Attica area were ordered to cut production by 50 per cent

## Blacks' skills are needed Business urges rapid change in S Africa

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Nov 25

A warning that South Africa's businessmen do not share the Government's apparent belief that the country has "unlimited time for the process of change" has been given here by Mr Mike Rosholt, executive chairman of Barlow Rand, the biggest South African industrial group.

In his 1981 statement to shareholders, to be released tomorrow, Mr Rosholt, declares: "There is growing understanding in this country that racial discrimination and economic growth are not compatible. Discriminatory measures must be removed if we are to have stability and an acceptable economic growth."

Reflecting openly much of the criticism voiced in closed session at the meeting between businessmen and Mr Pienaar Botha, the Prime Minister, in Cape Town earlier this month, Mr Rosholt says it is difficult to contest the view that the pace of change, to which the Government itself is publicly committed, has slackened over the past year.

It is "a matter of urgency to speed up... the removal of all discriminatory measures which restrict equal economic opportunities for all groups and which preclude effective participation by black entrepreneurs in the economy".

The pace of reform has been particularly inadequate, Mr Rosholt contends, in the provision of housing for blacks in urban areas, the registration of black apprentices and the upgrading of black education. He also calls for "complete mobility of (black) labour subject to reasonable safeguards" to be permitted in "white" urban areas.

Free enterprise and business efficiency cannot survive unless suitably qualified persons of all races are able to move without hindrance to take up employment opportunities wherever they be situated."

The Government "must accept the inevitability of increasing (black) urbanization, because only then will the black urban population have a sense of permanency and belonging which is a prerequisite for the stability we seek."

Mr Rosholt considers a shortage of skills as "the single most important obstacle" to South Africa's ability to achieve an acceptable economic growth rate. The private sector's efforts to train blacks are gravely inhibited by the inadequate state education system.

"The skills shortage cannot ultimately be solved until there is completely equality in education for all groups, and that this can only be achieved, and seen as such by all population groups, if it is under the supervisory control of one body."

He is not necessarily advocating racial mixing at primary and secondary schools, but he does believe that technical colleges and universities "should have the right to admit whoever they like".

In his own company, the movement of blacks, coloureds (mixed race) and Asians into the technical, managerial and professional ranks "continues to be depressingly slow".

Mr Rosholt's views are widely shared in the business world, and by many Verliges (liberals) in the Government. But the logic of his arguments is deeply resisted by the powerful Transvaal-based right wing of the ruling National Party.

## Arrigo Levi: A Personal View

### Half a glass of hope for the optimist

Leonid Brezhnev's visit to West Germany and the imminent start of the Geneva talks on theatre nuclear forces suggest that a new period of East-West negotiations may be about to begin. Can one hope that the eighties will present fewer threats to world peace than appeared likely in the late seventies?

In recent years, every analysis of the world situation included an awesome list of "factors of danger": the explosive combination of the Soviet Union's weaknesses with its immense military power; America's political and psychological crisis, which compromised its effectiveness as a superpower; the multiple tensions of the Third World; Europe's failure to use its real power to strengthen the world order; the worsening of an economic crisis of global dimensions.

In the late seventies détente had already become a victim to the interplay between these factors of danger, and one could easily imagine many scenarios leading, in the eighties, to a direct confrontation on some vital issue between the superpowers.

To what extent has this gloomy picture been confirmed by recent events? Does the start of new negotiating processes allow us to trust that the factors of danger will be kept under control? The dangers are still there, but one can perhaps see some signs of corrective reactions to them. Let us take as an example the Middle East, which remains the main focus of Third World instability.

The revolutionary potential of the Islamic movement, which is one of the main threats to the region's stability and order, has been proved once again by President Sadat's assassination. But the chaotic situation of Iran, as well as the Iraq-Iran war, also shows that within the Islamic world itself the ayatollahs' challenge gives rise to powerful resistances and reactions, which limit its expansionist power.

America and even Europe, have also shown their readiness to increase the level of their political and military commitments in the area, while new paths of negotiations on the Arab-Israeli conflict are being sketched in the Arab world. Of course the dangers of wars and revolutions remain great; but some spontaneous counter-trends and some organized policies have shown that this region need not follow a one-way path to disruption.

As an important sideline to

these more hopeful trends in the Middle East, oil markets no longer appear as hopelessly ungovernable. A regulated development of oil prices in the eighties now seems possible. This is a precondition for the success of efforts to bring the world recession under control.

The pitiful state of the world economy and the "crisis of growth" must nevertheless still be counted among the greatest threats to world order. Two other threats were considered, however, to be even more dangerous: Soviet aggressiveness, as a reaction to a peculiar mixture of crises and opportunities, and the weakening of America's power and resolution.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, the events of 1981 are instructive. In Poland, Soviet power has so far tolerated a genuine counter-revolution. Military intervention can still happen, but obviously such a dangerous threshold cannot be easily crossed; there are apparently limits to the Soviet Union's capability to react aggressively to its own crises.

A contributive element to that are the Soviet block's economic troubles, which might become intolerable and have the most serious political consequences without America's grain and Europe's financial help.

The American crisis was considered by many to be the single most important cause of the world crisis. One year of Reagan seems at least to prove that America can react to her own problems, without over-reacting to them in an irrational way, although the combination of forcefulness and readiness to negotiate is still somewhat uncertain.

Finally, Europe: There are several signs of weakness and disarray, together with some indications of a capacity to react. France has chosen a Socialist president without weakening in the least the unity of Europe and the West. Italy and Britain are showing some imaginative reactions to their political rigidities. Herr Schmidt, the German Chancellor, seems to have brilliantly survived many challenges.

A tentative conclusion: The dangers of a global crisis in the eighties have not disappeared, but the world is showing a definite reluctance to follow blindly the many possible paths to its own destruction, as shown also by the start of new East-West negotiations. An optimist would claim that the glass of man's hopes is still half full (or half-empty?).

# Congratulations all Talbot owners. You've won the 1981 World Rally Championship.

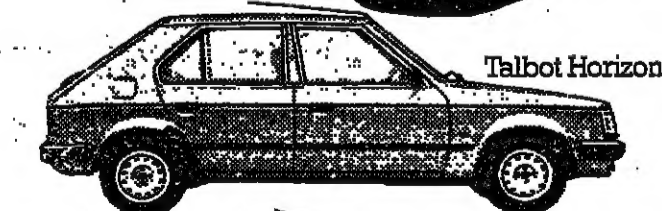


While the cheers are still ringing in your ears, read on. All Talbots, from the Horizon to the rally-winning Sunbeam Lotus have many qualities in common. Qualities that take you further like strength, reliability and durability.

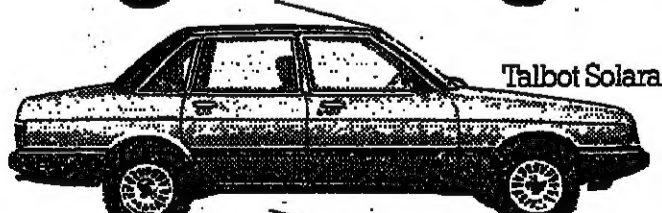
If we can build a car that wins the freezing, bumpy, boiling, soaking, mountainous World Rally Championship, you can certainly trust us to produce a car to cope with the problems you face.

A car like the Talbot Horizon 1.5 GL with so much interior space, and the economy to take you further than 50 miles on one gallon of petrol at a steady 56 mph.

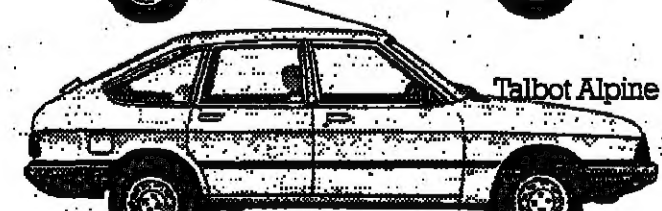
The Talbot Solara, a sleek, stylish saloon whose real beauty lies in its low servicing costs and



Talbot Horizon



Talbot Solara



Talbot Alpine



Talbot Tagora

the remarkable fuel economy of the 1.6 engine with 5-speed gearbox.

The Talbot Alpine whose sporty good looks and versatile hatch take you happily through 7 days a week.

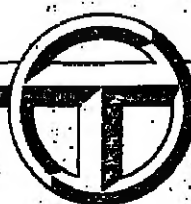
And the Talbot Tagora that combines a real sense of top-of-the-line spaciousness and comfort with a true sense of driving pleasure.

They're all winners. They all take you further - on a rock solid foundation of strength, reliability and durability.

So congratulations again. Talbot owners, you're driving a car that's built the way that beats the world.

## TALBOT

### TAKES YOU FURTHER



DoE Figures: Horizon 1.5 GL (manual). At steady 56mph - 51.4mpg (8.5 L/100 Km). At steady 78mph - 37.2mpg (7.6 L/100 Km). Urban Driving - 32.8mpg (8.6 L/100 Km). Solara 1.6 GL/CL/SX 5-speed. At steady 56mph - 44.8mpg (6.3 L/100 Km). At steady 78mph - 34.4mpg (8.2 L/100 Km). Urban Driving - 27.1mpg (10.2 L/100 Km). Routine servicing costs over 48,000 miles: Solara 1.6 - £189.88. Cortina 1.6 - £278.12 (based on Manufacturers' published service schedules and parts prices using a common labour rate).



# European budget battles divide London summit

By Ian Murray and David Spanier

Britain plays host to the European Community's heads of government in London today as they start two days of summit talks at Lancaster House, with the EEC budget, reform of the common agricultural policy and regional policies the main agenda items.

"It would be an exaggeration to say it is all going to be plain sailing", Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, told MPs. "There are a number of issues on the agricultural policy and the budget which are still some way from a solution."

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, as chairman of the meeting, will be seeking with her Community colleagues to set "guidelines" Lord Carrington said. These would need to be "of sufficient severity to make sure these problems are solved if possible before the end of the year."

The Foreign Secretary, who was answering questions in the Select Committee on Foreign Affairs, said that the point of setting guidelines was to refer the different issues back to the regular ministerial meetings in the European Community "to set on with it". It was not confident of reaching solutions at the coming summit, but remained hopeful.

The two-day summit is somewhat longer than is usual for such events. The reason is that Europe's problems are too detailed and divisive to be solved quickly. Any attempt to force the pace could split the community.

At the same time Britain is in urgent need of a settlement if there is not to be a repeat performance of last year's traumatic settlement on May 30, when the stop-gap compromise over the common agricultural policy sent out shock waves that continue to rock the Community.

The meeting after a lunch given by the Queen at Buckingham Palace, Lord Carrington

ton, hopes the first session will show whether significant progress is feasible. If so it is quite likely that the officials of the Ten will meet late into the night.

The heads of state and government will dine tonight at 10, Downing Street, as guests of the Prime Minister, and will be joined for coffee by the foreign ministers after dinner at Lancaster House with Lord Carrington.

A variety of international issues will be reviewed during the evening's talks, with Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, taking pride of place to report on his recent discussions with President Brezhnev, and Lord Carrington discussing the Middle East.

The focus for the summit's main talks is the plan drawn up by the European Commission when it was given a mandate to reshape the Community after the May 30 settlement. Its suggestions cover the agricultural policy, other policies and budget contributions and the changes it suggests are seen by some to be so radical as to amount to a rewrite of the Treaty of Rome.

The agricultural policy was identified by the Commission as the key to the difficulty and it suggested a method whereby payments were made in order to decrease the amount they received.

That solved Britain's difficulties to some extent because it received significantly less from agriculture than other countries. Furthermore, it shifted some of the burden of payment from West Germany to Britain, West Germany and France are thus the three countries with most to fight for at the summit, on the fringes of the argument are Ireland and Denmark, which are quite happy with the way

things are, and Greece, which is mulling darkly about renegotiating its entry.

On the sidelines are Spain and Portugal, both seeking entry terms which could disrupt the agreement.

Agriculture continues to hold the key to the European deadlock, especially now that France is taking more positive steps than ever to protect small farmers.

Mrs Thatcher, who can expect to be told the result of the Crosby by-election while she is engaged in these complicated negotiations, will want all the more to make a success of the summit.

On agriculture she will be pressing for a timetable commitment for changes to be agreed over the next few months. Once agriculture is out of the way, discussions will turn to the budget.

To sweeten the pill for the West Germans, who are resigned to having to go on footings a large part of Europe's bill for the foreseeable future, she will be trying to see that a favourable first reading is accorded to the "European Act" a joint effort by the West Germans and the Italians to breathe life into European union.

The summit's concluding session on Friday will cover traditional topics such as a review of the economic situation in the Community, but will be mainly concerned with the communiqué, and the report on progress—or lack of it.

Talks of international issues and political cooperation are the normal bill of fare for summits and are largely too important to disagree about. The reason this meeting is likely to go on much longer than usual is that the main argument is about the house-keeping money, which is the root cause of the worst arguments in any family.

## Greece puts its case to European partners

From Mario Mediano, Athens, Nov 25

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, flew to London today for the EEC summit and intends to put the Greek problem, as seen by the Socialist Government, squarely before his nine partners.

The new Premier seems to have reassured Community members and the Commission privately that before taking any action to pull Greece out of the EEC, he would consider how far his Government's national policies can be reconciled with the EEC's rules and procedures.

One of the Greek problems, aimed at the Agricultural Ministers conference last week, is the question of agricultural prices in relation to the Greek inflation rate, which is twice the Community's average. Already, the Government is flouting some Community rules by paying national subsidies to orange growers.

Against this background, the threat to take the issue of full membership to the people by referendum takes on the form of a negotiating position or, at best, a strategic objective.

This is especially true because of President Karamanlis's reluctance to exercise this prerogative over an issue that is so close to his heart.

According to qualified sources, the first stage for Mr Papandreu will be to explore if Greece's interests can be served within the existing Community arrangements.

This does not mean that he is seeking renegotiation, although some treaty revisions might be needed on such issues as the transitional period for specific products. Mr Papandreu intends to make a general statement on the Greek position in London.

Mr Papandreu stopped over briefly in Paris for a working lunch with President Mitterrand.

Some striking differences in the foreign policies adopted by the Socialist Governments of France and Greece have emerged recently. At least one of them, concerning the Greek objections to the EEC's condemnation of Libya over Chad, has certainly irritated the French.

Western governments, which are disturbed by the more radical aspects of Mr Papandreu's policy, hoped that the Paris meeting would blunt some of its edges.

The fact that Mr Papandreu, who is also Defence Minister, had a meeting with Mr Charles Hernu, the French Defence Minister, lends credence to reports that the Greek Government is offering the French large-scale technological cooperation in the arms industry, including possibly the local manufacture of Mirage aircraft.

## Social projects heavily cut in EEC budget

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels, Nov 25

More in sorrow than in anger the Budget Commission of the European Parliament today received back the battered Community budget for 1982 after it had suffered a 16-hour mauling at the hands of the Finance Council.

The final meeting, which ended at 4.30 this morning, in theory should have stopped at midnight if its decisions were to be valid. Some Parliament members toyed with the idea of using this procedural technicality to try to have the council document declared null and void, but it was not a view likely to win the day.

The majority of the 16-hour session was devoted to arguing over the smaller part of the budget, which is available for non-agricultural spending. The obligatory farm spending section, worth about £7,000m, virtually went through on the nod with only a minor deletion, while the rest of the budget, which is available for non-agricultural spending, was mangled.

The prime targets of the council axe were social projects, favoured by Parliament, to help depressed areas and the unemployed, give aid to the Third World and to do more to help retrain redundant steel workers.

A quibble over legal niceties meant that some £16m earmarked by the Commission for spending on housing in Northern Ireland was not allocated for the moment. A nicely phrased sentence inserted in the minutes by Ireland, how-

ever, promises that the council will further examine the matter "without delay and will draw the necessary budgetary consequences as soon as possible". Even the austere council, it is believed, will find it difficult to veto this money.

The budget is now to go back to a final reading by the European Parliament at its session next month and it is certain that attempts will be made to reinstate those parts of it which have been deleted by the ministers.

Between then and now its leaders will be judging whether or not it is really worth seeking another confrontation with the finance ministers or whether it is better to accept the extra £119m for special projects which is now on offer. France and Britain, its made it abundantly clear during the marathon meeting that they will oppose any efforts to increase the total any further, with France rather mischievously suggesting that any country with a real social conscience should be prepared to find money for the needy out of their own budgets.

It is added "The dialogue is under way which is the reason for encouragement. President Reagan has committed the United States to negotiate in good faith. If the Soviet side adopts the same attitude the upcoming talks will be a real opportunity for progress. We hope that as negotiations proceed the Soviets will take a forthcoming and fair position."

The State Department statement reaffirmed President Reagan's position in the West, that if the Soviet Union dismantled its SS20 and other medium-range nuclear missiles the United States would forgo the deployment of 572 Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe. This has been widely called the "zero option" proposal.

Mr Weinberger in his interview today also said it would be premature to say now whether there could be a summit meeting between Mr Reagan and Mr Brezhnev as early as next year. He thought the chances would depend on how well the Geneva negotiations went.

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## POPE NAMES CARDINAL FOR POST

The appointment today of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, aged 54, Archbishop of Munich, to head the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has been received here with some relief (Peter Nichols writes from Rome).

The Congregation, popularly known by its old title of Holy Office, is the Catholic church's main disciplinary body. It has dealt in recent years with the cases of Father Rane King, Father Edward Schillebeeckx and Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre. The Belgian Dominican, Father Schillebeeckx is said to be about to face a third examination by the Congregation.

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## Getty denies failing to support son

By Our Foreign Staff

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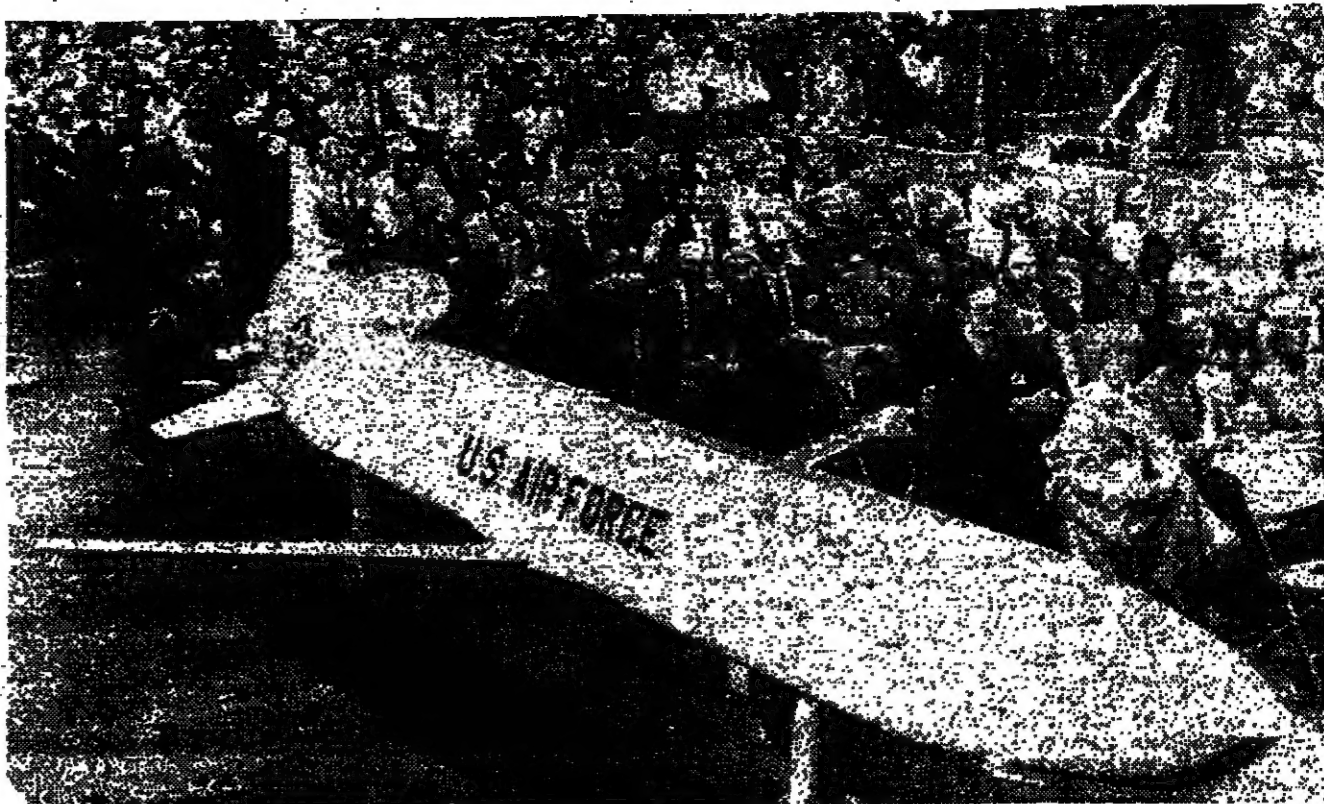
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Nuclear warhead launched: Boeing Aerospace guests attend the unveiling of the first full production, air-launched cruise missile in Kent, Washington State, on Tuesday. The warhead is the first of 705 missiles to roll off the production line in a \$318m (about £169m) deal for 1980-1981 with the United States Air Force.

## US hopes for genuine arms cut discussions

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Nov 25

The United States Administration hopes that President Brezhnev's willingness to consider reductions in Soviet medium-range missiles is a sign that Moscow is beginning to see the advantages of pursuing genuine arms reductions in this area.

Mr Casper Weinberger, Secretary of Defence, in a television interview today, said the United States was prepared to negotiate in perfectly good faith and be very patient at the nuclear missile reduction talks with the Soviet Union opening in Geneva next month.

The State Department, in a statement last night on President Brezhnev's proposal in Bonn on Monday to reduce some Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe, said that it intended to be a number of the necessary budgetary consequences as soon as possible.

Even the austere council, it is believed, will find it difficult to veto this money. The budget is now to go back to a final reading by the European Parliament at its session next month and it is certain that attempts will be made to reinstate those parts of it which have been deleted by the ministers.

Between then and now its leaders will be judging whether or not it is really worth seeking another confrontation with the finance ministers or whether it is better to accept the extra £119m for special projects which is now on offer. France and Britain, its made it abundantly clear during the marathon meeting that they will oppose any efforts to increase the total any further, with France rather mischievously suggesting that any country with a real social conscience should be prepared to find money for the needy out of their own budgets.

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## Ex-generals urge Nato to remove A-Weapons

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Nov 25

The Hague, Nov 25.—A former admiral and six retired generals from Nato countries today called on the alliance to remove all nuclear weapons from the arsenals of Western European nations.

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## Washington's nightmare Nicaragua's irresistible slide towards Cuba

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Nov 25

A visit to Nicaragua last month by Mr Philip Agee, the former CIA agent who now specializes in exposing American intelligence agents, appears to have confirmed the worst fears of the United States about the political direction being taken by the Sandinist Government in Managua.

Mr Agee went to Nicaragua to attend an "anti-imperialist week" organized by the regime. While there he publicly called for a "Muslimisation" to the "American problem", which was seen as an exhortation to Nicaraguans to follow the example set by the Ayatollah Khomeini's supporters in Iran.

Shortly afterwards a government-backed newspaper published the names of 13 alleged CIA agents working at the United States Embassy in Managua. Because of the atmosphere of growing anti-Americanism, the embassy thought it prudent to advise the families of the named officials to leave the country.

This is the sort of response we have been getting to our offer to sit down and discuss our problems with the Nicaraguans", commented a State Department official this week, referring to a visit which Mr Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs, made to Managua last August.

During his visit, Mr Enders presented the Nicaraguans with what Administration sources describe as a remarkable set of proposals including a form of non-aggression pact and assurances that the United States would not support any group in Nicaragua to overthrow the Sandinist regime's behaviour and orientation.

The Nicaraguans, however, failed to respond to our approach, complained the official. "All they have done is to make hostile gestures and to accelerate the process of radicalization that has been taking place there during the past few months."

Among the other recommendations are that Nato members give up their nuclear arms and Britain and France dismantle their nuclear forces. The memorandum also calls for the Warsaw Pact for a similar renunciation of nuclear forces by non-Soviet countries. It urges the United States and the Soviet Union to negotiate reductions of their own nuclear forces deployed outside their borders, and to negotiate cutbacks in strategic weapons, preserving a minimum, balanced deterrent force.

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Mr Getty said in his statement yesterday: "Anyone who believes I am unmoved by my son's tragedy, or willing to see him become a public charge, simply does not know me."

He added that since the separation from his first wife in 1966, "I have been unable to meet my obligations towards my children under the legal settlements as agreed and my paternal responsibilities as I saw them."

Responding to the accusation that he has not been in touch with his son since the stroke, he said: "For medical reasons of my own I am unable to go to the United States but my doctor has been in constant contact with Paul's doctors."

Cardinal Ratzinger has been a member of the Vatican's International Theological Commission. He is a traditionalist in his theology which makes him acceptable to the more conservative elements in the church, especially after the part he played in the Synod of Bishops here.

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## NEWS IN SUMMARY

### Allen 'sent no receipt for cash'

Tokyo.—A Japanese journalist whose magazine paid Mr Richard Allen a \$1,000 (about £525) honorarium for an interview she had with Mrs Nancy Reagan said a promised receipt to show that the money had been paid to charity never arrived.

Miss Yayuko Kamisaka, who interviewed Mr Reagan on January 21 for the women's magazine *Shufu no Tomo*, said in a signed article in the *Asahi* weekly that Mr Allen had promised the money would be donated to charity and a receipt forwarded.

Mr Allen, who is President Reagan's National Security Adviser, has acknowledged receiving the money from the magazine after she arranged the interview. Miss Kamisaka said a brown envelope containing 10 \$100 notes was handed to Mr Allen, immediately after the interview, by Mrs Chikako Tanaka, wife of Professor Tanaka, an old friend of Mr Allen. Mrs Tanaka was interpreter at the interview.

Mr Allen said the money would be donated to charity and the receipt, which I asked for, would be sent later. The receipt has not arrived to this date, Miss Kamisaka said.

### Swedes suspect Soviet Union

Stockholm.—The recent incident in which a Soviet submarine ran aground in a Swedish military zone, has caused Swedes more suspicious towards the Soviet Union and has increased the number wanting a stronger defence, according to an opinion poll published here.



## THE ARTS

## Television

## Glimmer of hope

Grapevine (BBC2) could scarcely have returned at a better time. Not only are the need and opportunities for community self-help and the crying demand for good news at street level more urgent and obvious than ever, but a scorched-earth policy by all three channels has turned Wednesday night into the Empty Quarter of the television week.

Consider. Between four in the afternoon and nine in the evening yesterday BBC2 gave us no fewer than nine repeats of one sort or another, followed by M.A.S.H. (not a repeat, but hardly new) and to (frankly joy) The Borgia. The BBC's evening comprised an indifferent Rock Hudson movie, then Wilfred and Eileen, sufficiently abused on this page for me to elaborate no further. Sportnight (OK for some) and Parkinson (of whose name 1205 different anagrams were received by John Craven's Back Page in Radio Times, the most apt of which, though naturally not the winners, were Limp Shark in Ocean and Plank in Same Chair. I.V. Three soaps followed by Starburst, which I admit I have never watched, and Dandy, the deep sedative beside which The Borgia sizzles like white fire.

So a warm welcome to Grapevine, particularly from those shumped, insensible before Bishop Soderini and Caspere Poto, who precede it, and a welcome even to the presenter, Jenn Barnett, whose efforts not to appear earnest or even important are landing her on some very soft ground between Jackanory and That's Life. She gave herself The Worst Presenter of the Year Award at the end of the show. Nice try: it was nowhere near as bad as that of Chris, but neither was it so good that the joke did not misfire dreadfully and start you thinking.

The quartet of sharp, attractive and well-matched stories in the first of nine programmes had no need of running gags or funny hats. The Ferry Theatre Group is saving the externally sumptuous Odeon Cinema at Woolwich; Britain's first community betting shop is ploughing money back into the large estate it serves on the outskirts of Chester (good, close questioning here from Radio Merseyside); the Stillbirth and Peri-Natal Deaths Association quietly achieves miracles of adjustment and compensation for grieving young mothers; and, in areas of Liverpool 3 which look like the South Bronx, Roanoke Flood and Rock against Vandalism give the kids a good time indoors and even get the police, off duty, to go along.

Each story could have made a whole programme by itself, and is being backed by local radio and Grapevine's information service. (Address: Grapevine, BBC2, London W12 8QT.) The sheets despatched on application are perfectly down-to-earth and joke-free.

Michael Ratcliffe

## Richard III

## Aldwych

Boar, spider, hunch-backed toad — any actor playing Richard III can take his pick of the bestiary generously heaped upon him and it is the rare distinction of Alan Howard's performance that he can recall in hurt surprise whenever these terms rise to his enemies' lips, as if to say, "What? Me?"

On first showing at Stratford last November, Mr Howard was hauling himself around the stage with a chain attached to a steel boot. He still has a bad leg, that gives way at key moments, but the surgical accessories have gone, leaving him to reveal other clues to the character. Gloucester now appears a much more varied creature, with signs of feminine passivity that I have never seen before. The opening is delivered gently, in keeping with the sound of the lute; and throughout his rise to power he often plays the underdog, consenting with a sweet smile to "go by thy direction" on the murderous trip to Ludlow with Derel Godfrey's wryly commanding Buckingham; and later asking him "Will not the Mayor come?" like a disappointed child. Of the two, Buckingham seems more the wit.

His spasms of energy thus become all the more hair-raising, but the real reward of this approach is that it paves the way for a fully masculine King in the second half; for once, the play gathers instead of losing interest after his accession.

## Interview

## Alceste's play of emotion

Janet Baker's last Covent Garden opera begins tonight. John Copley, the director, tells Hilary Finch about it.

John Copley's new production of Gluck's "Alceste" begins tonight at Covent Garden. Janet Baker is in the title role. When the curtain comes down at the last performance, on December 15, it will be Janet Baker's farewell to the Royal Opera House.

In an operatic career which stretches from early appearances with the Handel Opera and English Opera Group to a new production of *Orfeo* at Glyndebourne next summer, those works in which the triumph of the triumph of Baker, Mackerras and Copley have ruled have been formidable landmarks. There were *Werther* and *Julius Caesar* for English National Opera, *Dido* at Aix-en-Provence, and *ENO's* *Mary Stuart*, due at the Coliseum again in the spring. But it was *Alceste* which started it all. Janet Baker first met John Copley in 1958 when, as a student, he was choreographing for Joan Cross's production of *Orfeo* at Morley College.

"I remember most vividly that extraordinary voice making a tremendous impact on me," says Copley. "It was like nothing I'd ever heard before. When you hear a voice like that, you know you are in the presence of something extraordinary. She seemed a very modest and simple person and I knew from that minute that she was going to be something quite exceptional. Now she's become a legend. It's not just the voice, it's the way she uses it. It's the way she really does become somebody else."

when you work with them. Her mind is so focused, she's almost blinkered when she's trying to find the person. That's why I adore working with her. As a director you have to unlock little doors every so often, so she can find her way into a little bit more. The part's like a big castle, and we always feel at the end of her performance that there's still, for her, yet another room."

*Alceste*, particularly in the later French version of 1776, is very much a one-man opera. The phrasing out of the substantial neo-classic confidante's role, sung by Gluck's earlier Italian version and of the episodes sung by *Alceste's* children, the tightening up of her farewell scene with its new aria, "Non, ce n'est point un sacrifice," and the placing of the great "Dixitimus du Sux" at the end of Act I, all serve to sharpen the musical and dramatic focus on the character of *Alceste* herself and the feelings between her and Admetus, for whose life she resolves to sacrifice her own.

"There's no problem in staging the arias, as there can be with Handel," says Copley. "When you're digging you find there's an extraordinary and continuing emotional intensity there giving the opera its impetus. And it never stops; it's just like one very, very long note. Even when Admetus is on stage he's there in *Alceste's* music. It's been an incredibly painful opera to work on."

## Rock

## Pointer Sisters

## Dominion

As delivered by the Pointer Sisters, "Slow Hand" is not merely a memorable recording, but a single that perhaps the best women's song written by men (in this case, Michael Clark and John Bettis) since Alice Cooper's "Only Women Bleed". Sexy, refined, subtly feminist, it also manages to encapsulate the sisters' virtues: a country song performed by a gospel trio, played by Hollywood session musicians and moulded by a master pop producer.

Richard Perry's mid-Seventies productions (for Carole Simon, Ringo Starr and others) did not make him a critics' favourite; he seemed to epitomize the lush, lazy mentality which reached its apogee in the explosion of punk. Since 1979, however, when he began to direct the Pointers' recordings, he has fashioned a sublime synthesis of pop virtues all the more notable for the economy of its means.

Richard Williams

## Theatre

Otherwise, Terry Hands' production seems too consciously planned as a companion piece to *Richard II*; another study of an actor's mind, again surrounded by an inner circle of sinister cronies, and again seen soliloquizing into a mirror (in this case a dagger that is rarely out of his hand). The part, I believe, resists this approach; it seems to give the whole game away to the audience while remaining an unfathomable mystery.

Set by Farrah in a large metallic box graced with baroque handrails, the production unfolds with extreme and not always convincing varieties of tempo and is at its best in individual performances, particularly Richard Pasco's Clarence who takes command of his own murder, and Bruce Purchase's bull-like Hastings, and Barbara Leigh-Hunt's Margaret, still trailing through the new court in the bedraggled chain-mail of the Lancastrian wars.

Irving Wardle

## The Pick of

## Billy Connolly

## Cambridge Theatre

The fans welcomed him to the London stage by singing "Happy Birthday to You", a remarkably good-humoured response to the fully subjected us all to an interminable first half from a dull country band called Alive and Pickin' and to a 15-

minute interval. But the Big Yin still just about has them all in his Glasgowian welder's palms. Obsessed with every human frailty and office, his auto-depressive narrative still boldly probes where no molar-suited comic has probed before.

His Glasgow drunk vomiting into a student's dufling coat hood is heroically revolting, an admirable man even if the wife occasionally elicits a sense of sympathy. As he hunches into bed after twelve pints of heavy and a vindaloo. His drunks, his school days, his tenement parties are the home ground, but the house of his imagination where humans are at their worst, funniest, and most understandable.

It is that cast and those settings which have made even his English followers fervently want to be his friends. Apart from the birthday wishes there were an inflatable woman as a present and constant calls for a familiar gag, please for contact. But there is a chill between Connolly and his audience. He seems shy of close contact as if it could interrupt the flow of his fantasies.

On balance his first night was poor, displaying a slight tiredness, nerves and a sense that his cast were merely being wheeled on. They still loved him but a question hung in the air after the downbeat ending: is the joke played out? Perhaps he answered that himself with his response to the birthday song: "Jesus Christ THIRTY-NINE!"

Bryan Appleyard



Baker with Copley: "There's still, for her, yet another room"

One tends to see the sacrifice of one person for another as heroic and noble but it isn't actually like that. For *Alceste*, it's easier to sacrifice herself than to stay on without Admetus, and, although it seems the only way to go, she has to question if it's really the right way. The pain she has to endure through that is her sacrifice."

Copley emphasizes how much there is of Euripides in Gluck's *Alceste*, from specific almost unrecognizable assimilated verbal echoes in the structure itself. "Gluck and his librettist were very much aware of the Greek unities. The work goes in its own rhythm, the interval actually happens while they're getting back to the palace. It moves on inexorably because you know what's going to happen" (Hercules wins last-minute reprieve from Apollo for *Alceste* and Admetus). "The horrifying irony is that they have to go through all that

agony to be rescued in the end."

There is also a good deal of comedy in Euripides, but Covent Garden audiences need not expect any jokes. Not even in the eleven-hour rescue mission of Hercules. "Well, if you have a big fat man coming on in a leopard skin carrying a club, it's going to be funny. Gluck isn't as successful with the part as with Acts I and II. But he pared it down and Charles Mackerras's edition makes it even more concise. There's no comedy at all in Gluck. You can search through and not find a moment that isn't deeply profound."

Gluck himself spoke of the work's "heartfelt language, strong passions", but also its "endlessly varied spectacle". "The big ballet, the divertissement after the opera has ended, may be hard to accept for a modern audience, but it's wonderful music and there's absolutely no reason

## Dance

## Siegfried in mourning



Peter Wright rehearsing Petal Miller

neglected in *Swan Lake*; also, there is another advantage because the girls can disappear before the end of that act and change into their swan costumes for Act II.

"We are not having an interval at that point, only a short pause, and we shall keep the other intervals as long as possible. I don't think people really want longer than that, and I want to use as much of that marvellous music as possible, but without running into overacting. The setting is elaborate and takes a lot of work to put up or take down, but once it is up the scene changes can all be made quickly."

Wright has another collaborator in the production, Gaila Samova, who not only dances the ballerina part but has staged some of the dances. "She has been marvellous in helping to get the style for the second act. Of course we are keeping as near as we can to the traditional choreography there — there would be no point in changing it, except that Gaila has brought back from her visit to her old teacher in Kiev a simpler version of some of the arm movements, which is said to be authentic and I think looks better, so we are adopting that."

Samova has mounted some of the national dances for the third act, too, and Wright has adapted that scene considerably. "I wanted to keep the original sequence of the music at the beginning with the fanfares, which I find very attractive. We are having three princesses as potential brides for Siegfried, and that introduces them."

"Each of them is accompanied by a group from her own country, Polish, Hungarian and Italian, and for each of the princesses I have made a classical solo using some of the same music that Ashton did for his *pas de quatre*. I made the solos for the three ballerinas who will be dancing the lead at other performances. Margaret Barberi, Marion Tait and Sherrilyn Kennedy — although, sadly, Marion will not be back from her injury in time for the first night."

"Even once the production is on, we shall go on working at it if there are ways to improve it, because I think it is important that what we give the public is 100 per cent of ourselves. That is why we had to have a new *Swan Lake*, thought out for our company and for the theatres where we work."

John Percival

## Robert North

## Sadler's Wells

London Contemporary Dance Theatre's programme at Sadler's Wells this week celebrates Robert North's work. The first days until he left a few months ago to become artistic director of Ballet Rambert. The warm feelings of the dancers and their audience were made clear in Tuesday's performance and its reception. To do, and otherwise they get rather

chamber music, together with the bland quality of the choreography, made for a lopsided programme. The delicate but sure inflections of Kate Harrison's dancing in *Death and the Maiden*, and Patrick Harding-Tremer's dramatic authority as her partner, could not conceal the superficial nature of North's semi-abstract response to the music.

The opening work, *Songs and Dances*, is new to London; half new, at any rate the first part, to the *Quartet*, has been shown alone. Subtitled "Our Doors", this uses 14 dancers who are kept busy scurrying on, across and off the stage, mostly in small groups. The London contemporary dancers run very well, varying it with the little hesitations and the jumps, rising then treating like a wave, characteristic of North's own dancing.

The more recent second half, "In Doors", is supposed to depict a musical gathering at home: a curious one, where the guests assemble

after the singer has begun and leave before he finishes, perhaps, like me, they found John Barrow's account of the songs somewhat hammy.

That adjective applies equally to North's predictable visualisation of "Der Erlkönig", with sinister shadows behind Christopher Bennerman's duet with Philippe Girardeau. Anita Gaudin's dancing almost overcomes the facetiousness with which "Lachen und Weinen" is set. The best number is "Ständchen", excellently led by Michael Small and Lizzy Samderson.

North's choreography is always proficiently smooth but not particularly deep. It lets the dancers look good, but rarely stretches them. To my mind, his chief contributions to LCDT were his own dancing, which set a high standard, happily maintained, and the gift of leadership that long marked him out as a potential director.

John Percival

## Paperbacks

## The searching eye of Queen Victoria

Queen Victoria's Sketchbook, by Marina Warner (Macmillan, £3.95)

Queen Victoria's sketches could not be described as the art which conceals art. They are, as Marina Warner says, "guileless, as she was". And they are more often laboured and muddy than facile and fresh. But they do show what can be achieved with a limited talent by expert tuition. Victoria's natural ability for drawing and painting was certainly better than average, but it was vastly improved on by her teachers — Richard Westall, Landseer, Edward Lear and William Leighton Leitch.

made in 1841: "When the Queen was making the sketch, a cage with a parrot had been placed on a table near at hand, in order to divert the child's attention". Perhaps that was the origin of the phrase "Watch for the dicky-bird", so often used in the age of photography which was dawning.

Bevis Hillier

The Divine Comedy, by Dante Alighieri, text with translation by Geoffrey I. Bicklersteth (Blackwell, £4.95)

After Horace, Dante must be the most translated of poets. This is something of a paradox. Because of the economy of their language and the intricacy of their metres they are just about the two hardest poets to translate. We know, we know: *traduttore, traditore*. OK, Samuel: "Poetry, indeed, cannot be translated; and therefore it is the poets that preserve languages." But we do keep trying. It must be because Dante is good.

Geoffrey Bicklersteth, that Grand Old Uomo of Dante studies, spent 50 years on his translation of *The Divine Comedy*, and was still republishing when he died in 1974 in his ninetieth year. Professor Bicklersteth made his life's labour of love even more mountainous by insisting that the only way to translate Dante's poem was into the metre in which it was written, Dantesque *terza rima*, a measure that no major English poet, except possibly Shelley, has managed to sustain for more than a few stanzas. He argued that only *terza rima* could capture Dante's word-play and the mystical concept of poetry that inspired his masterpiece. It is impossible to produce both a version of Dante in *terza rima* and something that reads like an English poem.

Bicklersteth knew, "none better, that he cannot become a Dante, so he asks Dante to become him". But he thought that verse translation could be practised as one of the useful arts by those who lay no claim to be themselves poets. The result is generally agreed to be the best *terza rima* translation available, closer in style to the Laurence Binyon than the Penguin Classics version.

One short taste. You remember that majestic scene among the Heretics in the Sixth Circle, when Farinata, the proud Ghibelline chief, sits up in his burning sepulchre. Dante allows even the damned their dignity. Farinata entertains great scorn of Hell. Bicklersteth:

I had already fixed on him my sight; and he, uplifting breast and forehead, made as he were holding hell in great despite.

This is a scholar's translation. In parts, particularly in the *Paradiso*, it can be read at length as dignified poetry. It is a pity that the notes are so exiguous (no mention of who Farinata is), since those who need notes. But for those with little or no Italian, Geoffrey Bicklersteth's version often brings them as close as possible to this side of *Paradiso* to the music and joy of the great original.

Philip Howard

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## Art since 1900

### The Oxford Companion to Twentieth Century Art

Edited by Harold Osborne  
(Oxford, £19.50)

This volume might be thought of as *Son of the Oxford Companion to Art* since it was begotten by it, is younger than it both in looks and date of birth and looks much like it — not so good outside (the new book is unattractively, un-Oxonian bound) but in some ways better within. Both were brought into the world by the same accoucheur, namely Harold Osborne.

As it turns out, he has played a much larger part in the creation of the new volume. For Art he had the assistance of about 120 contributors, among them most of the well-known names in art history in this country. In the new it is modern art of the white Commonwealth, Russia, Latin America and Africa — not, one would imagine, a very large fraction of the whole — which is dealt with by a select of specialists. "All other articles," it quietly says, just before the list of plate sections, "are by Harold Osborne."

Although *Twentieth Century Art* has only half the pages of its parent it still comes in at about 600,000 words; well short of Proust's million and a half, but a considerable achievement for all that. Much of the content is straightforwardly informative: dates, places, teachers, influences, exhibitions, jobs, chief works and their locations. This must have taken a lot of gathering, and it is set out with steady and reliable clarity. Even in the more interpretative passages, where the kind of pictures an artist painted is being conveyed, an unusually high level of concreteness is achieved.

One notable advantage this companion has over its predecessor is its reproductions of important or characteristic works. There are 300 of these, many of them in colour, and excellent colour at that. The technique that captured the marvellous blue of a painting by the French abstract expressionist Georges Mathieu must be fairly recent. The older *Companion* had black-and-white pictures in the text but at least put them near the prose to which they were relevant. Here, although only a handful have a page to themselves, they are large enough to remind effectively and even inform.

In his very brief preface the editor says little about his principles of selection, except that he has left out the great nineteenth-century influences, but included twenty-of-the-century artists such as Munch, Moreau and Bakin. In general information comes to an end in the mid-1970s unless important enough to qualify for last-minute insertion. To find out who the editor thinks deserving we just have to look and see.

The result is to me almost oppressively fashionable and up to date. The expression "modern art" is not purely chronological, but "twentieth-century art" is. Non-modern painters of this century are pretty rigorously excluded, scraping in at times if they were at work in its very early years. It is a defensive position to leave out Munching, I suppose, although he was only 22 when the century began. But like Sargent and Orpen he was included in the *Oxford Companion to Art*, and they should surely have appeared in any case.

More dubious, perhaps, are the claims of Frida and Herkomer, who were in Art, and of Russell Flint, J. D. Innes, James Flinn, Ruskin Spear, Coming closer to present taste, why not John Minton (a reference in capi-



Three big women, Le Grand Desjardins, by Fernand Léger from *The Members of Modern Art* by John Russell (Thames & Hudson, £18 and £19.50). The book is built on two beliefs. First, that in art, as in the sciences, ours is one of the big centuries. Second, that the history of art, when properly set out, is the history of everything. Not just painting, but politics, war, music, the novel, philosophy, everything.

als suggests he fell out late in the day). Ayton, Craxton, Le Brocqy?

There are two reasons for thinking Harold Osborne has been really much too like God as viewed by Jehovah's Witnesses in completing the number of his elect. The first is that this is a reference book in which relatively uninformed people will be finding things out. They will be helped if they can relate the objects of sophisticated admiration who are mentioned to the rougher trade they know, and probably like. I would be in favour of, at least a mention, however disparaging, of de Laszlo and Anigoni, even of Tretakoff and Peter Scott.

The other reason is, more fundamental, if more speculative. One does not have to share the view of Evelyn Waugh that all painting since Augustus Egg is drivel and that Picasso is an obvious

and insolent fraud to suspect that a great deal of the experimental art of this century will fare as badly because of famous originality as, say, Franco Saluberry has done from facile imitativeness. Andy Warhol, for example, is treated in these pages as if he were something like Vermeer.

By no means all the articles are on individual artists. Some are on movements (e.g. Art Informel, where a helpful parenthesis, "art without form," steers us away from thoughts of lounge suits or jeans), and others are on nations, Japan has a tiny entry. China and India none at all. Unlike the older companion, *Twentieth Century Art* pays very little attention to architecture. I have found only three architects: Gropius, Le Corbusier and Aalto, who could not decently be deprived of his position as alphabetic bell-

weather. Nothing about Frank Lloyd Wright, Louis Kahn, van der Rohe, Mies van der Rohe, or even the United States since the war makes a coherent history, but France and Britain do not. There is a large number of truths, some of which are important and some of which are worth knowing.

The *Oxford Companion to Twentieth Century Art* does not, I think, serve a frustrated need. But it contains, in convenient arrangement, a large number of truths, some of which are important and some of which are worth knowing.

Anthony Quinton

## The rolling stone

### The Diaries of Sir Robert Bruce Lockhart

Vol 2 1935-1945  
Edited by Kenneth Young  
(Macmillan, £30)

On the day Germany attacked Russia, Bruce Lockhart was staying at Cheltenham, with Beaverbrook, who informed the company at dinner. "But for women, Bruce would have been Prime Minister and certainly Foreign Secretary by now." A nice bit of flattery, and Bruce Lockhart thought it worth recording in his diary without comment, though he never tries to pretend that this was the sort of success he was looking for or would have been any good at. He was, as Kenneth Young says, a rolling stone, and though such stones have rolled into cabinets they have never in recent times rolled to the top (difficult in politics, and though, as Kenneth Young says, Lockhart was not "cut out by nature of experience to be a manager or administrator," he was courageous, inventive and honest. It is more than can be said for many of those he had to deal with.

For six years, from the beginning of the war till the end of August 1945, Bruce Lockhart was back in harness as government secretary for most of that time head of the Political Warfare Executive (PWE). It is the diaries for those years which constitute two-thirds of this second volume, and which serve as a most interesting memorial. They are full, candid, graphic and anecdotal; it would not, in fact, be unreasonable to compare them with the *Gravels* and *Diaries* of the man at just about the right distance from the centre of power for a memorialist. Clerk to the Privy Council and head of a wartime agency giving each a close view of the going on and of all the people involved in the action without becoming themselves a principal. And whereas, inevitably, when

politicians and generals put pen to paper they write in self-justification, Lockhart was under no such obligation. If anything he is too self-deprecating (there again like *Gravels*). At the time of Germany's surrender he summed up:

What did I achieve during these war years? Very little, I conclude. With regret I reflected that for 2064 days of the war I had hardly ever spoken or heard an intellectual or substantial argument. I had read little and remembered less, and had not lived a single day that was not artificial. . . . When I look back on the confusion of the war (I had) I have no such talents as I possessed that with greater willpower and a firmer character I should have freed myself from these bonds and done some other form of work which would have been more useful and which would have satisfied my conscience.

In fact PWE, with its various forms of "black" and "white" propaganda, was a necessary arm of warfare, and though, as Kenneth Young says, Lockhart was not "cut out by nature of experience to be a manager or administrator," he was courageous, inventive and honest. It is more than can be said for many of those he had to deal with.

For most of the time he was required to serve two masters, Eden as Foreign Secretary, and Brendan Bracken as Minister of Information. He respected, both and they respected him, and when they consulted him they usually got good advice, particularly on Russia and east Europe, which he knew well. He writes amusingly and generally about both. Then, here, Eden's usual, very nice, exerting his charm, full of frustration over Churchill. "Oh God, I do wish the old man would go," that was March 1946 but

might have been many times earlier or later, or "like a schoolboy in his exuberance at the prospect of becoming first Secretary-General of the United Nations. . . . Here is Bracken on, stepping up religious broadcasts to Germany. 'I'll get you all the priests you want. I'll get hold of their archbishop fellow for you. I'll get him to lunch, and give him some booze.'"

His old boss Beaverbrook, was the third of Lockhart's trinity, more than once rescuing him from imminent involuntariness. But his real political love was for the Czechs, and he is most moving in his account of his friendship with Benes and Jan Masaryk. Many times he regrets that he had not retained his job as representative to the exiled Czech government in preference to doing the propaganda he at heart despised.

As might be expected of someone who ran the *Evening Standard*, Diary off and on for eight years before the war and was Atticus on the *Sunday Times* after it, he has a quick ear for good stories. But it is more than the "first-class stories" about the great and the second-hand and the interest of the tales.

Lytton Strachey said of *Gravels*: "He was not exactly a gossip, nor a busybody; he was an extremely inquisitive person, in whom the sense of curiosity was a natural part of his personality. Thus the broad current of London life flows through his simple pages, and as one turns them over one glances swiftly into the curiously distant world of 80 years ago."

Read "already curiously distant world of 40 years ago," and that is true of Bruce Lockhart at his wartime best.

E. C. Hodgkin

## Living with the bomb

### The Evolution of Nuclear Strategy

By Lawrence Freedman

(Macmillan, £25)

The atom bombs which were dropped on Japan in 1945 unleashed a monster which the world ever since has been struggling to control. The solution so far, reached more by accident than design, has been to create a second monster of similar size and shape, so that the two can intimidate each other while we get on with the business of living. In short we have learned not only how to live with the bomb but how to take advantage of it.

Dr Freedman makes the point that much of the early post-1945 strategic debate was simply a continuation of that over long-range aerial bombardment which had characterized the 1930s. Nor is there anything conceptually new about deterrence, which was being practised in the days when men fired bows and arrows and wore chain mail. What is new is the scale of the disaster which would follow should deterrence fail. As Dr Freedman says again, it is now very difficult to contemplate

a future without nuclear weapons (though unilateralists presumably do so) while it is equally difficult to comprehend the consequences of their use.

The trouble is that the threat of mutual assured destruction and its notorious acronym MAD, is not as simple as it sounds — although it is quite as horrific. For one thing it relies upon the assumption that the control of nuclear weapons remains with rational people who would at no time relish the prospect of national suicide. For another it can be completed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons — already possessed by 54 countries (the half being India) and perhaps, clandestinely, by more than that. A third difficulty is that the threat of nuclear retaliation has to be credible, both to the country which makes it and the people against whom it is made.

This unique and scholarly work by one of our leading young strategic thinkers is a critical history of official and unofficial attempts to grapple with these problems and construct a nuclear strategy which is thoroughly convincing or at worst plausible.

Its timing is impeccable, emerging as it does after the

flurry of confused and confusing statements from Washington and four days before the start of new arms-control talks which reflect the US-European issue.

Yet Dr Freedman, who is Head of Policy Studies at the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House), concludes that after 35 years we have reached a position where stability depends on something which is really the antithesis of strategy. It rests upon the very fear that we might indeed act irrationally if and when the time comes. C'est magique, easily slip out of control. This threat is credible because if there were a major breakdown in East-West relations in Europe and fighting began, plans drawn up in advance would be quickly overtaken by events. "Those who have responsibility for unleashing nuclear arsenals live by the motto that if they ever had to do so they would have failed. Remarkably, up to now they have not. C'est magique, easily slip out of control. This threat is credible because if there were a major breakdown in East-West relations in Europe and fighting began, plans drawn up in advance would be quickly overtaken by events. 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After Scarman: a militant voice of black dissent and the policeman at the centre of the storm

# My fears after this failure

By Darcus Howe, Editor of Race Today

Whatever else Lord Scarman had to do, there were two major tasks before him. First, his report had to show that he grasped the essence of the historical moment in its entirety. The British people needed to be informed of those essential characteristics which distinguished the summer uprisings from anything that had gone before. Only by extracting these characteristics would Lord Scarman have been able to fashion the foundations of his report from which his recommendations would automatically flow, recommendations which would reflect and harmonize with the range and depth of the revolt.

Secondly, he had to recommend not what is possible for a Tory government led by Mrs Thatcher to accept, but what police officers may or may not be happy with, but what is historically required to restore the balance of power which had over a quarter of a century, leaned heavily in favour of the police.

Yet again, official society has failed to grasp the need. The Scarman report is way off beam in all matters that are essential and crucial. I aim to prove and to give others the opportunity of proving it for themselves.

Three central features emerge out of the revolts on which any report must rest. First, within 10 minutes of the Brixton uprising, a body of about 30 young men gathered and began to transform spontaneous reaction into an organized revolt. They cooly set in motion and supervised the mounting of barricades and the manufacture of petrol bombs. They organized scouts, who moved around on roller skates and bicycles, with detailed information on enemy positions.

They organized the commandeering of vehicles, set in train diversionary actions to confuse the enemy. They selected which buildings would be destroyed by fire and saw to it that they were. They organized points where those who were injured were attended, all the while in touch with developments within the area affected by the revolt. Finally, they took a

decision to retreat, which the mass of young blacks promptly obeyed.

Such a body of men and women exists in every black community in this country. That is what the revolts reveal. The point was not lost on the Chief Constable of Manchester. Describing his experience on the streets of Moss Side he said: "I have described it already as a form of guerrilla warfare and that's precisely what it is. They (young blacks) employed unique and extraordinary tactics and last night we had to be extremely flexible in our nature and ability to respond."

Secondly, West Indian parents are not prepared to make or to throw petrol bombs at the police. I have discovered, though, that once young blacks act in this way, older West Indians are prepared to offer them sympathy and support. This represents a profound transformation in attitudes.

Thirdly, we in the West Indian community have refrained in the past from taking drastic action, fearing the much touted white backlash. I am not sure, and there is little possibility that it will. Something else has happened. Young whites joined the revolt.

This brings me to the crucial question. Why is it that the best elements in official society are unable to grasp the need? And by best elements I mean those who are not prepared to respond, at this stage, with extreme and brutal bloodshed. How could Lord Scarman ignore such significant developments? The answer lies in one word, myth. They are constrained, inhibited and dominated by the myth that the British police are the best in the world.

The British people, in the course of neutralizing a powerful monarchy, established parliamentary democracy and in the process developed a sense of democracy and freedom over and beyond that existing in most other countries. Later, millions of ordinary working people combined to add greater weight and depth to the democratic tradition.

It is this developed instinct for democracy and freedom which has kept the British police in check, which has ensured that restraints on the police be written into law. In addition, the British people have, for centuries, practised an alertness and vigilance which ensured that any attempt by the police to break out of the legal and administrative constraints was powerfully resisted. Once these constraints are absent, it has been proved that the British police are capable of all the excesses which characterize other police forces.

That has been the West Indian community's experience. For some considerable time we lacked the alertness and vigilance which a vibrant community produces. The police sensed this and trampled wildly on blacks' rights. An extensive body of experience exists to support these allegations.

To this formidable police power successive governments, over the last ten years, have added exceptional powers of stop and search. I am prepared to accept that parliamentarians, in giving these powers to the police, thought the police would exercise them discreetly.

But a police force with a capacity for discreetly employing stop and search powers, in the black community had long ceased to exist, except in the parliamentarians' minds. The British police have used these powers to express every whim, caprice and prejudice. How could Lord Scarman ignore such significant developments? The answer lies in one word, myth. They are constrained, inhibited and dominated by the myth that the British police are the best in the world.

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Howe: Mere tinkering?

accountability remain peripheral unless accompanied by a radical and central thrust capable of correcting the gross historical imbalance. His entire package has failed to meet this vital requirement. It is mere tinkering.

He had the opportunity to demand the immediate abolition of all powers of stop and search. Not at some future uncertain date but now. Twenty five years of history demanded that stringent safeguards aimed at protecting the suspect from physical abuse, verbal and forced confessions be enacted at once. And finally, the experiences of the West Indian community at the hands of magistrates screamed for the recommendation that the Lord Chancellor issue guidelines to magistrates requiring the highest standards of police evidence before defendants are convicted.

Such a package would represent a modest beginning, but it would certainly have meant to the West Indian community that at last a government was willing to tackle this problem in a fundamental way.

Lord Scarman's failure to act along these lines has ensured that those forms which appeared in the streets of Brixton, the city, must necessarily develop into full-blown manifestations in the not too far distant future.

# McNee's new mandate

Sir David McNee could be forgiven for feeling galled this morning by the outcome of the Scarman Inquiry. For the man whose police force is now being urged to improve community policing in London is also the man who as chief constable of Strathclyde in the mid-1970s made community policing accepted and important part of police strategy in Scotland.

Lord Scarman notes that the law "must be applied sensitively as well as firmly", and points to "hard" policing methods which "caused offence and apprehension to many" in Brixton. Yet Sir David, who must take ultimate responsibility for the actions of his officers, ten years ago in Glasgow, halted the use of confrontation tactics by the police in the city's slums.

On the face of it the man who now commands London's 24,000 policemen seems a very different man from the one who led 6,500 officers in Scotland 4½ years ago. Have London's problems changed? Sir David's outlook or are his ideas still trying to break free of Scotland Yard's bureaucracy and hard-line attitudes? Lord Scarman has been gentler than some police officers expected but will Sir David and the Home Office now feel it is time for a new hand at the helm to instil fresh public confidence?

During his years in Glasgow and Strathclyde Sir David established groups of neighbourhood policemen to work in the sprawling housing estates and created a technique of saturation patrolling to deal with the problems of juvenile delinquency. When the people on some of the Glasgow estates complained of the activities of police squads nicknamed "The Unouchables" and using the techniques of saturation patrolling, Sir David reorganized the squads drastically.

Sir David came to London in 1973 after a career which had made him, in the words of one senior politician, "a policeman's policeman". The son of an engine driver, he joined the police in 1946, starting on the beat in Glasgow. It was not he became a detective inspector in Glasgow's flying squad that his career took off.

He was the first Glasgow



McNee: How hard a line?

graduate of Bramshill Police College and by the spring of 1971 had become Glasgow's youngest chief constable at the age of 45. When the Scottish forces were reorganized he was given control in 1975 of Strathclyde.

When Sir Robert Mark decided to retire as commissioner in London McNee's name was put forward. At the time a major issue was corruption within the London force. What was needed was a commissioner free from any connection with Scotland Yard, a man who knew how to run a big city force and one who would crack down on police peccadilloes.

Sir David had all the attributes. But the Metropolitan Police found itself with a commissioner very different from Sir Robert, who could hardly use publicity and argue academically.

Perhaps the combination of toughness, astuteness and resource is a key to Sir David's career in London. Brought south to fight corruption, he found that in London the Devil has more than one head and the Scarman Inquiry has shown many of them in full profile.

Sir David was blooded within a few months of taking office. In the summer of 1977 he upheld the right of the National Front to free speech in marching through

Lewisham, south London. More than 200 people were injured. In 1979 Mr Blair Peach, a New Zealand teacher, died during clashes between supporters of the Anti-Nazi League and the police during a National Front meeting in Southall, west London.

Sir David constantly upheld the duty of the police to maintain law and order without ever shirking their responsibilities. At the same time he fought for new powers and tried to defend old ones. His proposals to the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure were seen as further indications of his commitment to the freedom of the individual. The black community attacked the "sus laws" as a means of persecution but Sir David maintained they were needed to fight crime.

The Special Patrol Group, the centre of many allegations and criticisms, has been overhauled and tactics in dealing with public demonstrations have constantly improved. While Brixton has bubbled, the Notting Hill Carnival has now largely reestablished its equilibrium after the disorders of some years ago.

"Brick Lane has been given a police station. In Southall where a punk-rock concert this summer resulted in a riot by Asian youths a senior officer who had built up a good reputation in the area was brought back to repair the damage in the aftermath."

A further colleague of Sir David sees no contradiction between the man who was Chief Constable of Strathclyde and the man who is now Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. In both jobs, Sir Robert has faced a "hard-line" police force.

Within London, others would dispute the "hard-line" tag and point to the fact that there simply are not enough officers since London's police strength is based on a 1950 estimate which was out of date when it was made. It has often been thought that Sir David would remain commissioner for five years. The Scarman Report may be the weapon he needs both inside and outside the force to continue his work.

Stewart Tandler

# The reality behind Bright Star

Cairo General Robert C. Kingston looks as though he had stepped from one of those films the Americans made during the grim days of the Second World War. He has a thick, chunky face, a square jaw and slightly hooded eyes and he punches out his words like a prizefighter. "If the Russians or any other enemy or potential enemy want to take on the United States," he says, "I'm going to give them that opportunity."

It sounds a little like General George Patton or John Wayne, although General Kingston speaks in a monotone, breaking his sentences into three-word segments as though dictating messages over a field radio. He commanded two brigades in Vietnam. In a tight spot, he is the sort of man a soldier might want to rely on.

That is what the Arabs are meant to think too, for Kingston's Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force is supposed to spread confidence among the pro-western nations of the Middle East that the United States will turn up in strength to defend both her interests and her friends. The fact that the two may prove to be incompatible has been quietly forgotten in the razzmatazz that has accompanied Bright Star 82, the ambitiously publicized American military exercises held in Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Oman these past four weeks.

But even the United States' presumed friends have not always been forthcoming enough to welcome the American troops to their bosoms. True, the Egyptians have allowed 4,000 men of the 82nd and 101st Airborne and 24th Infantry Divisions

to demonstrate their explosive capabilities in the desert 70 miles from Cairo, but Somalia preferred to limit American forces to just 250 men, a clutch of bulldozers, trucks and a highly regarded but somewhat defenceless water purification unit.

The Omanis, guided as usual by their British advisers, asked the Americans to confine their exercises to a remote part of the country and insisted that no information be disclosed on what the American troops were doing or where they were.

In fact, parties of American marines are staging landing manoeuvres on the beaches west of Salalah, near enough to South Yemen to enable the Soviet technicians based there to observe the exercises on their surveillance equipment.

The landings have provided the Americans with experience of a coastline with which they may have to be familiar in a Soviet-American confrontation in the Gulf, and there have been other dividends of Bright Star 82. In Egypt, GIs have been able

to watch and occasionally use Soviet equipment. They have learnt that in the desert they must wipe the oil from the outside of their M-16 carbines if they are to prevent sand sticking to the weapons and jamming them.

The existence of the Rapid Deployment Force (RDF) has been firmly established. The Iranian revolution, the seizure of the American hostages in Tehran and the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan displayed American impotence: the RDF shows that the United States is still ready to fight. But its specific tasks are less clear. Is it meant to defend Arab states from Soviet aggression or — as some Arab nations suspect — to involve them in a conflict with the Russians if American interests are attacked?

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Secretary of Defence, is quite ready to lay out his point. Although he talks fulsomely about the Soviet threat to the Gulf, he refers specifically to the need to "defend the access routes" that the Russians would use to invade the Persian Gulf. The map shows that, despite the Soviet hardware stored in Libya, a Russian attack is hardly likely to be made by way of Egypt or Sudan. A further, more intriguing clue comes from a new television film made by the American government that is included in a documentary about the work of the RDF.

The film contains a series of graphics which show the invasion routes the Russians

might take to reach the warm waters of the Gulf. The bright red arrows move south from the headquarters of the 22 Soviet divisions which the Americans believe are stationed along the Iranian and Afghan frontiers. These arrows sweep into Iran, one plunging southwards through Iraq towards the Iraqi port of Basra on the Shatt-al-Arab waterway.

Nor is there much doubt, talking to American officers in Egypt, that the United States is preparing for the possibility of fighting north of the Gulf. The Californian command ships where the US 24th Infantry Division has been training resemble the rugged deserts and mountainous terrain of Iraq and Iran rather than Egypt, Sudan, Somalia or the Gulf states.

That is one reason why the pro-western Arab states have been so slow to express their enthusiasm for the presence of American troops or to offer them bases. And that is why countries such as Syria have so bitterly condemned the Bright Star exercises. The Americans say they will go to the aid only of countries which seek their assistance. But would Iran ask for help from Washington even if the Russians were to move into their northern provinces or cut through Baluchistan?

Those Arabs who believe in the conspiracy theory of history are also well aware that in the worst conflict scenario, the Americans would form a front line



An exercise in the improbable... a US Cavalryman, desert style.

against the Russians down the Iraqi-Iranian frontier — the very battlefronts of the present Iraq-Iran war.

The permutations of such a struggle extend far further than the Middle East. The RDF keeps thousands of tons of armour on Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean, but a prolonged conflict in the area would necessitate convoys of American supplies from the United States. At present these could reach the RDF in 30 to 35 days in a fleet of fast command ships. But in a war the Suez Canal would be closed and the convoys would have to sail round the Cape.

Who would defend them? An American survey of the waters around southern Africa has found sharp variations in depth, a phenomenon that confuses anti-submarine

sonar equipment. The Americans need a bunkering port for their naval protection vessels on the African coast, and with Angola and Mozambique now denied to them, the only harbours that might conceivably be open to them in a conflict with the Soviet Union are in South Africa.

Even Egypt would be agitated at the thought of cooperating, however reluctantly, with Pretoria, yet these are realities that the Arab states may have to face if they find themselves standing shoulder to shoulder with the RDF in the Middle East. How the Americans understood the complexities of the world into which they would

so blithely parachute? Earlier this week, the Egyptian 21st Division snaged a crack attack on an obligingly defenceless hill in the

Western Desert before General Kingston and his senior officers. The Egyptian troops charged across the desert floor, waving their Kalashnikov rifles and shouting into the sky. As they passed, their cry could clearly be identified. "Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar", they were shouting — God is great, God is great.

General Kingston and his colleagues fell silent. For all the sophistication of their communications, the precision of their bombing runs and their helicopter attacks, this was a message with which the men of the Rapid Deployment Force had not come to terms.

Robert Fisk

Ronald Butt's column has been held over

# "Let's not confuse ostentation," I said, "with style."

There was little danger of that, I reflected, as I looked again at the pocket watch she handed back to me.

The symmetry of the sixty diamonds encircling the intricately hand-carved movement, punctuating each minute with a sparkle of pure light. The miniature wheels within the transparent case, moving the hands in perfect motion. A delicate evolution of function into decoration.

"But what a shame," she remarked, as I slipped it into my pocket, "to have to keep something so beautiful hidden away."

Perhaps she has yet to discover that pleasure in ownership can come as much from private contemplation as public display.

Audemars Piguet

Illustrated brochure and list of appointed jewellers is available from Audemars Piguet, 71 Saffron Hill, London EC3N 8RS.



# A great Dame on wine and song

Lunch with Dame Joan Sutherland yesterday, earlier in the day, had begun her role in *Il Trovatore*, which is to be revived at Covent Garden from December 10. We drank Perrier water, which not unnaturally led to a discussion on drink. Dame Joan, confident that she is something of a connoisseur of fine wines, white especially.

In fact, it is one of the grounds on which she judges opera houses. It follows that San Francisco, Buenos Aires and Palermo (Teatro Massimo) are top of her list; the Bay of Naples, the Valley for the best Californian wines, Palermo is convenient for Corvo, and BA for Chilean white. At her home in Montreux, Switzerland, she and her husband, Richard Bonynge, the conductor, have a good cellar featuring Swiss wines.

We did talk about opera but Dame Joan was more excited about the approaching opening at the Garden or her son Adam's forthcoming marriage in Australia after Christmas. "I hope I'll be a grandmother fairly quick," she said blithely. Like a good Australian, Adam, a hotel manager, is doing things upside-down, and having his honeymoon now, before the wedding.

*Trovatore*, which Dame Joan described as a "marvellous old piece," is actually fairly new for her — she has done only six performances before. She says she

# THE TIMES DIARY

There may be those who will carp about the cost but it was surely good to see the RAF mount an elaborate operation to save the life of a former member, Eric Williams, author of *The Wooden Horse*, the story of his escape from a POW camp, using the horse as cover for a tunnel.

Seventy-year-old Williams was taken seriously ill in Geneva, a day island in the eastern Alps, while he and his wife Sibyl were laying out their yacht for the winter. In search of adequate medical help, Sibyl sailed the yacht across the lake in gale-force winds, ending

sometimes finds remembering her words a problem these days, but wants to do parts like Anna Bolena, which she has never had a chance to do. She then dashed off for a fitting, fretting about whether her costumes would match her hair. Apparently, "auburn" means different things to different hairdressers these days and she is never sure exactly what shade she will be. I sloped off for a white wine.

# Silent Princess

The first biography of the Princess of Wales is to appear next May, anticipating by one month a certain happy event. It obviously

up just in a hospital in Naples, then in Athens. When doctors there found that Eric probably needed a new heart, Mr John Sutherland, the British Ambassador in Athens, alerted the RAF. Wing Commander Colin Bridger, an air force physician, flew in from the base hospital in Cyprus and checked whether Eric was fit enough to be flown home.

Yesterday an RAF Hercules from Cyprus completed a medical team on board *flam* to Athens to take the Williamses and the doctor to Brize Norton airfield near Oxford, so that Eric could be taken last night by ambulance to Radcliffe cardiac hospital.

will not be a long book but even so its author, journalist Penny Junor, is having a problem getting material. She alleges "a wall of silence and uncooperativeness put up by the palace" and suspects that even commentators associated with the Princess's family have had instructions to keep their mouths shut, with workers on the Spencer estate at Althorpe in Northamptonshire having to sign forms binding them to secrecy.

For my part I'm rather glad that mum appears to be the word in all matters relating to the Princess. A much more interesting question is how Mr Junor, daughter of J.J., editor of the *Sunday Express*, hopes to get an entire book out of a 20-year-old woman. I think we should be told.



Quiet labours

I hear from Westminster that Labour Party whips have just finished lobbying the back door of their offices in the House of Commons — which just happens to be next to the front entrance of the SDP whips' den. The Labour chiefs claim that noise from their new neighbour has necessitated this drastic action, but I wonder. Surely the gleaming Social Democrats never allow themselves more than a moderate chuckle over their latest recruit? I suspect the Opposition whips are really more

anxious to keep in the sounds of their own wrangling.

# Brief luck

A solicitor friend in London yesterday received a visit from an Essex man, asking for help with a defence. Looking through the papers the solicitor noticed it was the fourth time the man had been charged with the offence of theft, but that he had been acquitted each time before.

"What's wrong with your usual solicitor?" he said. "He seems perfectly capable."

"Oh, yes," was the reply. "But his luck can't be."

# A record?

I read in the current issue of *Cosmopolitan* the scarcely believable fact that "in Britain someone buys a Barry Manilow album every 37 seconds". It is also the case that someone dies every 15 seconds but I understand the two events are not related.

# Nastier than Iran

Despite Barry Manilow England is the friendliest country to American tourists, according to a survey of members of the Society of American Travel Writers. After England (by which I presume they mean Britain) comes Canada, Australia, Japan and Mexico.

Next question? Well, the five least-friendly countries towards Americans are France, Russia, Iran, East Germany and Jamaica. Imagine how bad the East Germans and Jamaicans must be to rate below Iranians.

Peter Watson





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 0-837 1234

## LORD SCARMAN'S REPORT

Bafflement followed the Brixton and other riots of the summer. Why there, why then? The ferocity of the outburst and the complexity of its causes darkened the search for remedies. The appointment of Lord Scarman to inquire and recommend seemed like a promise of illumination. His reputation as a wise and humane judge, the width of the evidential net he cast, and the skilful sense of theatre he brought to the public proceedings may have raised unrealistic expectations. His report is commendably judicious. It provides a clear account of the events at Brixton and disentangles responsibility for them. It disposes of the wilder allegations against police and agitators. It makes balanced observations on the social and economic background to the riots and about the lines that policy might take. It is a great help. But it could not, and it has not, come up with instructions either for politicians or for the general public on how to prevent riots.

Lord Scarman was conducting a judicial inquiry under the Police Act of 1964. Not surprisingly the most cogent parts of his report concern policing and his firmest recommendations are in that area. They concern the changing relationship between the police and the community they serve; longer and better training, with emphasis on the understanding of ethnic minority cultures, the exclusion of racially prejudiced recruits and the elimination from the force of anyone who behaves in that way; the recruitment of more blacks; and an independent element in police complaints procedure.

There is no justification whatever for throwing the word "whitewash" at the report, Mr Darcus Howd. Lord Scarman is critical of some of the methods and decisions in the policing of Brixton and elsewhere that were reviewed by his inquiry. He acknowledges the existence and emphasizes the disproportionately bad effect of instances of harassment and discrimination by policemen. But all this he does in careful language and with respect for the evidence. The gravity with which he views it is to be measured not in decibels but by the reach of his recommendations for changes in police practice. It is this which community leaders concerned with policing should fasten on.

Public order was at the centre of Lord Scarman's field of inquiry and policing by consent is at the centre of his field of vision. He puts a powerful shoulder to the wheel of community policing. He finds one of the causes for the outbreak at Brixton the collapse of the community police liaison arrangements, and another in the absence of consultation with community leaders before embarking on major police operations in the district. Lord Scarman wants statutory consultation, extending it in the provinces

where it already exists and introducing it in London where it does not. And he wants to go beyond the quartermastering and general policy of present consultations practice to embrace operational matters. In London he rightly holds that the Home Secretary should remain in the "police authority", but he proposes arrangements for statutory consultation at borough and police district level.

The importance of these proposals is not so much in the framework provided as in the attitude to policing that facilitates and encourages it. It is a practical expression of the principle that policing is best achieved by consent of the local community and it is means of giving the representatives of the community a say in how it shall be policed. The police themselves must become enamoured of that approach if the proposal is to be any use. Legislation cannot of itself make a reality of consultation.

Like others before him Lord Scarman is struck by the public loss of confidence in the procedures for investigating complaints against the police. He is of the opinion that confidence will not be restored short of taking the investigation as well as the adjudication of complaints out of the hands of the police. This is a minefield of good intentions. The experience with the Police Complaints Board, a bureaucratic creation of Mr Roy Jenkins, does not support Lord Scarman's conclusion. He underestimates the practical difficulties of getting together a staff of investigators capable of doing that job without incurring quite disproportionate expenditure of money and resources. Nothing should be done to weaken investigation nor to reduce the disciplinary powers of a chief executive. The best answer to public anxiety is to strengthen lay scrutiny of the results of investigation: a series of ombudsmen would be preferable to the cumbersome procedures which might spring from Lord Scarman's restrained advocacy.

One omission from this part of his report detracts from the value of Lord Scarman's recommendations, though it does not necessarily invalidate them. Nowhere does he consider public violence as something calling for investigation and control not only in relation to grievances that may lie behind it, but as a social phenomenon in its own right. This leads to neglect of one dimension of the problem facing both police and community. It seems also to have coloured Lord Scarman's consideration of the idea of a modernized riot act. He discounts it on the grounds that the police already have adequate powers of arrest, and that the difficulty of marshalling evidence of an offence against public order, though real, is a difficulty common and proper to the protection of criminal matters. Yet if a riot is in progress the offence

is, or ought to be, being in on it. No one should be able to feel that he can join in with impunity provided no further offence can be proved against him.

As the report fans out from the subject of policing to comment on the social, economic and administrative context in which the rioting occurred and to consider the cause and cure of racial disadvantage the observations become more general. Lord Scarman deliberately treads warily for he is outside his province whether as a judge or as someone appointed to conduct a public inquiry. He is in the area of public policy and political priorities. His prudence is understandable: a risk is taken with the independence of the judiciary every time a judge is drafted into the cockpit of controversy. It is a fashion we might question and only Lord Scarman's renowned integrity has preserved him through Ulster, Red Lion Square, Grinwick and now Brixton. A price is paid here, in the pious way Lord Scarman discusses the threat persistent racial disadvantage poses to the coherence of society. He notes that if the balance is to be redressed, "as it must be", positive discrimination is required. But it is not clear whether he is aware that positive discrimination should take the form of spending programmes for identified areas or categories of citizen, which is the form it has taken up to now, or whether he is among those who think it should be extended to positive discrimination between individuals on the basis of colour, in such matters as recruitment, promotion and educational selection, which is likely to be both more effective and more widely resented.

The value in this part of Lord Scarman's report — and despite one's reservations it is a very real value — lies in the sense of urgency he brings to his analysis and the convincing way he describes the predicament. The problems were present and known before this spring and summer. The kind of measures that require to be taken have now been well laid out. This government and its predecessors have done too little to redress racial disadvantages, and this government certainly has said too little that might contribute to the removal of a sense of black insecurity.

Ministers must lead both in the allocation of resources and where they have the opportunity to set an example in a code of employment and through patronage over appointments. But the responsibility goes right through the community, and with the community the police which is its arm. Black and white elements make up the community: black and white racists pollute and poison it. The quality, and ultimately the safety, of society depends on black and white citizens working consciously to live in toleration together.

## THE THIRD MAN

By his handling of Mr Brezhnev's visit to Bonn, Herr Schmidt has established West Germany's claim to a pivotal role in east-west relations, thereby opening a fascinating new phase in postwar diplomacy. He will now be the invisible third man at the arms talks which start in Geneva next week. He will be the man whom each side must persuade of the reasonableness of its position, and through whom each may be tempted to put pressure on the other. If he talks run into trouble he will be the man best placed to mediate. Whether he actually does so is in some ways less important than the fact that he could.

To some extent this role has been thrust upon Herr Schmidt by the simple fact that his public is the most important of those that must be persuaded to accept the stationing of new weapons if the talks fail. But it is also significant that he himself chose to be the first western leader to release Mr Brezhnev from the quarantine imposed after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. He took a risk in doing so because he might have been accused of disloyalty to the alliance, particularly as the Americans were already unhappy about his gas deal with the Russians, but the outcome of the visit shows more gain than loss.

By all accounts he spoke frankly to Mr Brezhnev. He pointed out the damage that the invasion of Afghanistan has done to east-west relations, and even got a mention of that country into

the final communiqué, together with a significant acknowledgment that "crisis and conflict in various parts of the world not only concern the affected states but can also have negative effects on the whole international situation". By receiving Mr Brezhnev, he has somewhat undercut western attempts to establish just this linkage between the invasion of Afghanistan and east-west relations as a whole but the Americans have moved in the same direction by agreeing to negotiate on arms control. The main thing is that Herr Schmidt did not let the issue drop, and has kept open the possibility of future linkage.

Above all he mined no words on the build-up of Soviet nuclear weapons and firmly rejected Mr Brezhnev's offer of a moratorium that would keep existing Soviet missiles in place while stopping the deployment of Nato's response. Better still, he made it very clear to the Russians that the Nato missiles will in fact be deployed if no agreement is reached, and that even a change of government in West Germany would not alter this. He is in a stronger position to say this because he will not have to face a party vote on the subject in the spring. If the Russians are now persuaded, and observers in Bonn believe they are, it opens up more hope for the negotiations. Had the Russians continued to speculate that the protest movements might prevent deployment they would have been under very little

pressure to negotiate seriously. Now, if they really want to reduce nuclear weaponry in Europe, they must see that negotiation is the only way of doing so.

But the Russian leaders must also be persuaded that President Reagan wants serious negotiations. They have been upset and confused by the changes in American policy in recent years, by the failure to ratify the Salt II treaty, and by the election rhetoric of Mr Reagan. They are old men with limited capacity to cope with change or indeed to understand any foreign countries. When west Europeans are confused by Washington the Kremlin must be several times more confused. Here again, Herr Schmidt has tried to step in as interpreter to assure the Russians that the American administration is now truly committed to negotiations.

This new and powerful role for Germany will take some getting used to, and is not without dangers. It would be better if the two super powers could understand each other without an interpreter. Failing that, it might be better to have a European interpreter without quite such specific national interests at stake. However, for the moment Herr Schmidt is doing useful work in a role which has opened up largely because of problems in communications between the super powers. But he will need to take care, since a position in the middle could easily be misinterpreted as the beginnings of West German equivocation.

## Industrial view of glittering prizes

From the Chairman of Beecham Products and others

Sir, Although drawn from diverse sectors of industry, we are united in urging the Government not to be deflected from its broad strategy against inflation by the rising volume of often partisan opposition.

Mrs Thatcher's task has already been made more difficult by the repeated failure of previous Prime Ministers, both Labour and Conservative, to persevere against inflation when the going got rough — or the next election approached. The result was to accommodate ever more rapidly rising wages and other costs, leading to mounting levels of unemployment, with no lasting gain in more efficient use of resources. If the necessary adaptation in Government and industry is again called off, it will eventually prove even more uncomfortable and costly.

The Government's resolute stand since 1979, alas against the background of the worst world recession since the war, has compelled even the most lagging of industries to make a serious confrontation the long-neglected reality that we all have to earn our own living in a tough competitive world. The positive result is the shedding of decades of industrial bad habits. In particular, industry has been forced by the discipline of the market place to tackle slack working arrangements which have been encouraged by many trade union leaders, in a permissive climate of inflationary full employment and connived at by some managements for fear of risking industrial disruption.

At grievous cost, British industry is now poised to take advantage of the recovery in effective demand, as costs come down and existing money goes further in buying more goods and services. There are two lessons, one for the Government and the other for industry.

For the critics the lesson from the past, backed by clear evidence, is that increased monetary demand in the name of "reflation" would be more likely to damage this hard-won advance by inflating prices rather than to stimulate real output and employment. The lesson for the Government is that the competitive discipline which has compelled industry to become more efficient does not touch the over-manning and waste in swollen central and local bureaucracies

or nationalized monopolies, including "free" social services such as education and the NHS.

As a result of this imbalance the costs of private industry and employment are still burdened by excessive rates and taxes and the exorbitant prices of protected public corporations. Indeed, if nationalized industries had done as well as competitive industry in reducing labour and other costs, the present rate of inflation would already be nearer half the latest figure of 11.7 per cent. Readers may ponder what a tonic effect such a cut in average price rises would have in raising sales at home and abroad as to increase employment while at the same time abating pressure for wage demands unearned by higher output.

These are the further glittering prizes the Government could now win for us all by new measures to curb public spending and to expose state monopolies and welfare services to the invigorating winds of competition. The improvement in British Steel shows this healthy process at work. Even the Government's critics might raise a cheer if more extensive denationalization in fuel and transport freed productive investment on these vital industries from the voodoo of the PSBR.

Yours faithfully,  
RONALD HALSTEAD, (Beechams),  
BASIL COLLINS, (Cadbury Schweppes),  
GEORGE CATTELL, (FMC),  
JAMES HANSON, (Hanson Trust),  
ARNOLD HALL, (Hawker Siddeley),  
INCHCAPE, (Inchcapes),  
NEWELL BOWMAN-SHAW, (Lancaster-Bowman),  
MALCOLM MCALPINE, (McAlpine Partners),  
I. A. ALLPORT, (Metals Box),  
IAN WESTON-SMITH, (Morgan Crucible),  
MICHAEL PUTTICK, (Taylor Woodrow),  
JAMES DUNCAN, (Transport Development),  
CHARLES TIDBURY, (Whitbread),  
REGINALD SMITH, (Wimpey),  
PHILIP DUNKELEY, (Mitsubishi),  
STANLEY FIELD, (William Baird),  
MARSH, (Beecham House, Brentford, Middlesex),  
November 25.

## Putting heart into Ulster community

From Mr David Smyth

Sir, I write as a person who lives in County Down, near Newtownards, where the recent unfortunate loyalist show of strength took place. I also write as a former member of the Conservative Research Department who had a short and not successful career as a Unionist candidate for the Westminster seat now held by Mr John MacGee MP.

There must be many good and loyal British citizens who have in the past supported Ulster's Unionist cause but who are presently appalled by the behaviour in Parliament of some of those who profess to love the Union. Such persons must be grievously distressed by television film of a rally which had some of the appearance of a thirties party rally in Germany. It would be very easy for those who have supported us in the past to draw similar analogies and to say, "Well, if that is loyalty then what can rebellion be?"

Yet such a view, although understandable, would not be just. I do not intend to apologise for those who wear masks to hide their faces or who break the law by donning the apparel of paramilitarism. Such behaviour is an assault on the rule of law. It has a tragic repercussions both here and in England. But there are some factors which should be considered before our friends feel compelled to condemn us.

Ulster's political vacuum is not her own creation and those Westminster politicians who are prone to wring their hands in frustration at Ulster's present political leadership would do well to remember this. Ulster opinion has been terribly and perhaps irrevocably split. This has been largely due to the deliberate policy pursued by Westminster governments.

The prorogation of the Northern Ireland Parliament by Mr Heath was the obvious fruit of such policy. It was neither justifiable nor democratic. Its rationale was expressed as "breaking the mould of Northern Ireland politics". In reality it was intended to hasten the fragmentation of a majority party. It also, incidentally, had the effect of removing administration once described by your paper as "reasonably humane and reasonably efficient". It was the greatest blow to stability and the rule of law that Northern Ireland has suffered.

Secondly, any community has its negative elements, its corner boys and hard men. No one in Britain after recent events can be self-righteous in this respect. Ordinarily these elements are not greatly troubled by issues of politics. In the stability that is still Britain only issues of race and immediate material deprivation occasionally catch their volatile imagination. This is not so in Ulster.

Ulster is a community that has one basic political issue — its survival. It has suffered a decade of sectarian violence principally directed against that survival, and it also has had to weather the hostility of the non-violent political strains of Irish nationalism. Despite this we have had a negative response from a weak Government that is both removed from any real accountability to, or understanding of, the people for whose peace, order and good government it is responsible.

There is one powerful example of this. On taking office as Secretary of State, Mr Prior made it clear that the major concern of his Government was the removal of the hunger strike. He indicated that this problem was an international one. His ministers in pursuit of this concern hastened to the Maze to talk to the hunger strikers.

At the time of these visits killings by the comrades-in-arms of those hunger strikers were continuing. Since the ending of the hunger strike such killings have increased. Of course, the hunger strike was a high priority for the British Government; it was, however, an exceedingly low priority for those Ulstermen who were lying in support of their beliefs. Their priority was staying alive.

In these circumstances, is it any wonder that responsible people consort with the irresponsible? If Mr Prior is not to go down in history as the Secretary of State who presided over the total collapse of stability in Ulster then he somehow must convince and continue to convince the majority of reasonable Ulster Protestants and Catholics that vigilantes are a concession to lawlessness and a defeat for the rule of law. He has to give heart back to a gravely neglected community. He can only do that by showing that his Government has the will to make its only priority the defeat of terrorism. Yours faithfully,  
DAVID SMYTH,  
Comber, County Down.

## Women in politics

From Mrs R. P. Moore

Sir, Dr Summerskill's article in today's Times (November 24) on women in politics recalls the struggle to increase the influence of women in Parliament.

We, too, have a copy of the photograph of the group of women members, which includes my aunt, Margaret Wintingham, who took her seat 60 years ago this year. She was ever keen to further women's intrusion into the man's world of politics, and in 1921 tried to persuade the Government to introduce a Bill to enable peeresses to sit in the House of Lords, something they were unable to do until 1958 as

life peers or 1963 as hereditary peeresses.

In fact only 11 of the 26 women in the photograph were members when it was taken in 1944; the others had been in Parliament over the years since 1919. Four sitting members, including Ellen Wilkinson, were not in the photograph.

In 1944 there were 15 women members in all. The total climbed to 29 in 1964, but has now dropped to 19, although some increase may be imminent. Yours faithfully,  
PATRICIA M. W. MOORE,  
15 Parkgate Avenue,  
Hayley Wood,  
Barnet,  
Hertfordshire.

## Judges and parole

From Sir George Waller

Sir, I write to you to prevent as soon as possible the misapprehension arising partly from the leading article in *The Times* (November 21), and a report in *The Sunday Times* (November 22) indicating that the Home Secretary's efforts to reduce the prison population are being thwarted by judges. I am writing because I originally proposed (in a speech to the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders in 1980) that the parole threshold should be reduced below 18 months, and because that proposal was quoted in the Home Office Review of Parole in May of this year and then rejected in favour of a proposal for universal release for the middle third of sentences under 18 months.

To provide automatic release in every case informs the court that the effect of its sentence will be divided by three, and there is a proportion of cases where the court wishes to be sure that the offender will not be free for a certain time. Inevitably a longer

sentence will be passed and the proposal will be self-defeating.

If, however, release is discretionary the court must assume that the offender with whom it is dealing may not be released until the end of his sentence (subject to remission). Accordingly the tendency to increase the sentence will be resisted, as it is over the whole existing range of parole. I realise that there are difficulties in implementing such a scheme, but against the background of the present prison population it may be possible to overcome them.

Finally, I think it is only fair to point out that judges have borne in mind the Home Secretary's warning, and speaking as a member of the Court of Appeal sentences appear on the whole to be shorter than they were two years ago.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE S. WALLER,  
Hayley Wood,  
Barnet, Surrey.  
November 23

## Pre-menstrual problems

From Dr Anthony Clare

Sir, In the light of the recent court case involving the use of your medical and legal correspondents (November 12) concerning premenstrual tension are welcomed. No consistent biochemical or hormonal abnormality has been discovered. There is considerable controversy over the likely cause and most appropriate treatment. Some even doubt the existence of the condition.

Popular claims are made concerning the susceptibility of women in the premenstrual phase to driving accidents, poor examination performance, impaired sporting activity and a host of other psychological and behavioural problems. These claims are confounded by the fact that their scientific foundations are for the most part thoroughly suspect.

However, recent research involving over 500 women, undertaken by this unit and funded by the DHESS, has revealed that the greater the degree of physical, psychological and/or behavioural change during the premenstrual phase, the more likely it is that the individual woman regards these subjective experiences as "normal" and subtle, and as symptoms warranting medical intervention depends not merely on her knowledge and the severity of

her symptoms but also on her social and personal circumstances and her psychological health.

In the light of such a finding, it would seem unwise to apply the label of disease to a woman who merely identifies such changes (Not all changes, incidentally, are necessarily negative — on certain psychological tests performance is actually enhanced during this phase).

What is needed, if future discussions of the subject, legal and otherwise, are to be illuminated by fact rather than by speculation, is research of an appropriate standard and scale. Such research would involve more than merely a search for this or that biological abnormality and would aim to clarify the psychological and social factors which help turn a ubiquitous experience into pathology.

In the absence of such research we will remain at the mercy of particular opinions, and in particular the notion of women as the products and the prisoners of their reproductive system, a notion which physicians and others a century ago exploited to explain and condemn of female "deficiencies".

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY W. CLARE,  
General Practice Research Unit,  
Institute of Psychiatry,  
University of London,  
Denmark Hill, SE5.

## Wage-inflation tax

From Professor Richard Layard

Sir, There is a common fallacy over the wage-inflation proposal, reiterated by David Blake (October 29). Under the proposal a firm that inflates its wages at the average rate will receive as much in rebate as it pays in tax. Therefore, the argument goes, the scheme cannot have affected its behaviour.

This logic is quite wrong. For the amount of tax which a firm pays depends entirely on its rate of wage increase, while the amount of rebate which it gets does not. Thus the firm can influence its tax liability, but has little influence on its rebate.

If the tax rate is 100 per cent, a firm that pays its workers £1 less saves itself £2, compared with £1 if there were no tax. It therefore has a much more powerful incentive to resist wage claims. In the same way, the fear of speeding discourages speed, even though the driver who pays the average fine gets his money back in lower taxes and is no worse off because of the law against speeding.

The inflation tax would encourage each firm (or employers' federation) to pay less, even if it

thought all other firms would pay the same. But firms know that other firms will respond too, and this in turn will encourage them to press down still more.

The scheme will also lead to lower union wage claims. For a large wage increase will now cost the employer more and thus make him more likely to cut employment. The union will be correspondingly more cautious in pushing their luck.

Some people, like David Blake, have claimed that "the scheme has nothing to contribute to the problem of public sector pay". But, if competition is an argument in public sector pay, any scheme which helps in the private sector must indirectly help in the public sector. In addition, the tax would have a direct effect in the nationalized industries and local government, provided cash limits were not relaxed to pay for it. Central government would not pay the tax, but the existence of an economy-wide norm could surely help to reduce the level of settlements.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD LAYARD,  
London School of Economics and Political Science,  
Houghton Street, WC2.

## University of Zimbabwe

From Lord Ashby, FRS, and others

Sir, On September 8 last Professor Walter Kamba, a distinguished and humane international scholar, was installed as the first local-born Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Zimbabwe, an institution which, from its origins in 1955 as the University College of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, and throughout the recent tribulations, has done so much for multiracial higher education in Central Africa.

In earlier days the universities of London and Birmingham, through their schemes of special relationship, the Inter-University Council, and the Association of Commonwealth Universities, all helped to lay the foundations on which the university is built. These bodies, and the many graduates, former staff and its other friends in Africa and in Britain, are surely delighted that the University of Zimbabwe has achieved the aim which all shared, by emerging as a fully fledged Commonwealth university of international standing firmly rooted in the soil of an independent Zimbabwe.

We will follow its progress with interest and affection, and wish it well. The university, as a key local instrument of Zimbabwean development, seems assured of firm support from the Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, in facing the challenge of the new conditions in Zimbabwe. Its determination to meet that and to do so effectively and without loss of quality is inherent in Professor Kamba's vision of its future, in providing for his country's needs in teaching, research and objective policy advice; and in maintaining international standards of scholarship.

It is profoundly to be hoped that the British Government, whatever the other calls on its aid funds, will take positive steps in conjunction with the Government of Zimbabwe and the British Council to ensure the develop-

ment of further constructive contacts and programmes of collaboration between the University of Zimbabwe and British universities which will be of great benefit to all concerned in every possible way.

Yours faithfully,  
ASHBY,  
J. B. BUTTERWORTH,  
ANASTASIOS,  
CHRISTODOULOU,  
CHRISTOPHER COX,  
RICHARD GRIFFITHS,  
HUNTER OF NEWINGTON,  
C. T. INGOLD,  
ALEX MCKENNA,  
MORRIS OF GLOSMERE,  
ALAN NEVILLE,  
ALBERT E. SLOMAN,  
ROBERT STEEL,  
J. R. STEWART,  
John Foster House,  
36 Gordon Square, WC1.

## Subject inverted

From Dr A.G. Cohen

Sir, I was rather confused by the two brief excerpts of musical scores in *The Times* of November 24. The idea, I am sure, was to contrast the "old and new" styles of the distinguished Polish composer, Krzysztof Penderecki.

Twenty years ago, his *Devils of Loudun* was considered avant garde, whereas his recent *Parade Lost* sounds more orthodox — at least in the concert hall it sounds more orthodox. In its upside-down version in *The Times*, it sounds more avant-garde!

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN G. COHEN,  
110 Willow Avenue,  
Edgbaston,  
Birmingham,  
November 24.

From Mr D. C. Cursons  
Sir, Does standing Penderecki's *Parade Lost* on its head constitute political or social comment? Yours faithfully,  
D. C. CURSONS,  
8 York Terrace,  
Cambridge.



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**\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days**

هكذا من الناحية



## Selling skis to Austria page 21

# Mobil raises stakes in Marathon bid

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Nov 25

The bidding war for Marathon Oil began in earnest today as Mobil Oil, the unwanted suitor, raised its offer and US Steel, the other candidate, indicated to Wall Street that it too would increase its bid.

Publicly, US Steel officials declined to comment on the news that Mobil has raised its offer from \$85 a share to \$125 a share for 51 per cent of the Marathon outstanding share.

But privately, US Steel executives conferred with bankers and investment advisers about raising their current offer of \$125 a share for Marathon.

"It looks like US Steel will come in with a new, higher bid in the next week or so," one analyst said.

Meanwhile, Mobil has fresh hope, based on new legal advice, that there is a way to circumvent antitrust problems and fashion a merger proposal which has a good chance of being approved by the Federal Trade Commission.

Mobil has been told by its legal advisers that the United States Government is very likely to challenge its bid for Marathon on antitrust grounds but that the case can still be won if Mobil agrees to sell off certain Marathon properties, according to attorneys close to the case.

The trade commission will most certainly challenge the merger on grounds that it will increase concentration in the oil industry and lessen competition, largely by shutting off supplies to a large number of independent marketing companies now supplied by Marathon, the attorneys said.

Mobil has been told it can satisfy the bulk of these concerns by contractual arrangements for the continued sale of petrol to the independents as part of the merger agreement. Alternatively, it can simply sell Marathon's marketing arm, thus eliminating the main antitrust concern.

It is partly because of Mobil's renewed belief it can win over the United States government that the oil company has decided to raise its bid, and keep on bidding, to buy Marathon.

Mobil wants the Ohio-based oil company because of its large American oil reserves concentrated in West Texas, where Marathon owns more than 10 per cent of the huge Yates field—the second largest domestic field, outranked only by Prudhoe Bay in Alaska.

This is the reason Mobil sought and won a court order for a review of an option Marathon granted United States Steel, its preferred suitor, to buy its interest in the Yates field.

As part of its agreement with United States Steel, Marathon agreed to discourage all other suitors by pre-arranging the sale of its most valuable asset.

But Mobil does not plan to sit back quietly and let this happen—a fact underscored by the announcement today that it has acquired slightly less than \$15m worth of United States Steel stock.

## Bank accepts interest rates may fall ½ pc

By David Blake and Frances Williams

A half point cut in bank base rates would not be opposed by the monetary authorities in spite of their determination to keep a tight grip on the money supply. There is growing surprise on the official side that clearing banks have not brought their base rates down in the past 10 days, something which present money market rates would allow them to do.

The Government remains convinced that problems in the growth of the money supply make any big drop in money market rates or other interest rates impossible at present. This is in spite of the fact that interest rates in the United States, which were one of the prime forces behind the last rise in British rates, have come down sharply in recent weeks.

But this determination to use interest rates to keep money supply under control does not mean that the authorities feel that there is no room for base rate cuts.

The authorities, through the Bank of England, have played a key role in setting the level of money market rates in recent weeks. These are thought to point to room for a small cut in base rates, though probably not as much as a full point.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, last week reinforced signs from the Bank of England against an easing of interest rates when he gave evidence to the House of Commons Treasury Select Committee. Sir Geoffrey indicated as much in a stance when he gave evidence on Monday, but he did point out that there have been some signs of interest rates coming down.

One factor which complicates the position for the Government is that domestic and international factors are pointing in different directions. American interest rates are falling sharply, suggesting that rates in Britain could go the same way.

Money market rates eased fractionally yesterday, with the Bank of England lowering its dealing rates for bills in open market operations by one-tenth of a point. But European deposit rates also fell by a quarter of a point. Further widening the differential between sterling and dollar rates.

The pound bounded ahead on the foreign exchange market, rising 1.25 cents to \$1.9310, its highest level since the end of June.

**Stock Markets**  
FT Index 525.2 up 6.2  
FT 100 64.70 up 0.58  
FT All Share 310.41 up 3.04  
Bergains 18,400

**Sterling**  
\$ 1.9310 up 125 points  
£ 51.2 up 0.21  
New York: \$1.9345

**Dollar**  
Index 105.6 down 0.4  
DM 2.282 up 32 pts

**Gold**  
\$ 410.25 up \$10.25  
New York: \$412.40

**Money**  
3mth sterling 14 1/4  
3 mth Euro 12 1/4  
6 mth Euro 12 1/4

### PRICE CHANGES

**Rises**  
Anderson Strath 3p to 91p  
Anglo Am Corp 25p to 67p  
BAT Ind 12p to 124p  
Bracken Mines 12p to 124p  
Eleco Hldgs 6p to 77p  
Elstree Gold 3p to 142p  
Growth 10p to 132p  
Kinross 55p to 614p  
Pearl 12p to 432p  
Plesuram 17p to 253p  
Rockware Grp 31p to 414p  
Sentrust 21p to 137p  
United 20p to 217p  
Western Areas 20p to 217p

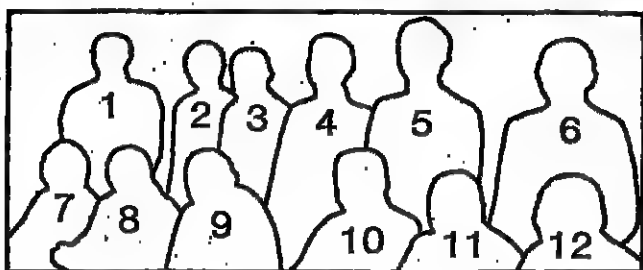
**Falls**  
AB Electronics 3p to 120p  
Baggeridge Brk 4p to 60p  
Brook St Bureau 4p to 25p  
Eunah 0p 3p to 122p  
De La Rue 5p to 67p  
Dunbar Grp 5p to 480p  
Elliot & 4p to 103p  
Hewden A 4p to 141p  
Kwik Save Disc 10p to 295p  
Martin RF 21p to 214p  
RHM 21p to 350p  
Royal Ins 5p to 445p  
Thorn EMI 5p to 21p  
Trans Paper 3p to 21p

# Business News

THE TIMES Thursday November 26 1981



The team which helps Lowry create a peaceful industrial picture



## Energy costs threat to steel operations

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

British Steel's electric arc steelmaking operations in Sheffield were said yesterday to be in "very serious jeopardy" because of high energy costs and poor availability of high quality scrap.

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the loss-making state corporation, told the all-party Commons Select Committee on Industry and Trade that there were serious doubts about the future of the electric arc business. While the corporation had reduced energy consumption by 12 per cent this year, electricity charges remained 15 per cent higher than European levels.

The uncertainty facing the Sheffield operations, which produce high quality stainless and alloy steels, poses another major threat to employment in Britain's steel industry.

Currently suffering losses of more than £5m a week, BSC employs about 12,000 in the Sheffield area on steelmaking, rolling and forming processes. Private sector steelmakers, who Mr MacGregor said would also be facing serious difficulties, have almost exclusively adopted the electric arc steelmaking method, which uses high purity ferrous scrap as a feedstock.

BSC is expected to make a loss of £300m-£400m this year and has already shed 20,000 jobs in its current survival plan. Mr MacGregor confirmed that a further loss of 15,000 jobs to a total labour force of 91,500 would be a "manageable" target by July next year.

Yet another threat has come from pressure among American steel producers to ban allegedly "dumped" European steel imports. Uncertainty over the possibility of United States action has delayed submission of the latest BSC corporate plan to Whitehall.

Mr MacGregor told the committee that a loss of American business would cut BSC sales by up to 500,000 tonnes a year and the corporation would lose 10 per cent of its business. It was not possible to give an indication of the impact on jobs but a United States ban would force the corporation to "reorientate" those parts of the business affected.

For every percentage point drop in the volume of sales, the corporation lost about £40m, he said, and the likely loss caused by a United States ban could be about £300m a year.

The BSC chief added that an American ban on steel imports would cause a steel surplus in Europe which could have drastic effects on the market.

Mr MacGregor and his colleagues described them to the committee as the finest management team in Britain—continued to believe that higher prices are crucial to BSC's future success. He said: "I do hope that British industry has not become accustomed to living on subsidised steel."

But the corporation had not confined itself to raising prices to reduce costs. The British exercise in capacity reductions had been unique in Europe but Mr MacGregor denied that labour and plant cuts had gone too far.

## Callard sale likely within a month

By Margaret Pagnan

Arthur Guinness, the brewer, is holding talks with several parties for the sale of Callard & Bowser, its troubled confectionery subsidiary, which employs 1,186 people making nougat and toffee products.

A Guinness spokesman confirmed last night that it is trying to sell the group because C & B no longer fits in with its overall strategy. Last year, C & B made its first loss of £300,000 on turnover of £17m. Talks have been going on for several weeks but no agreement is expected for three to four weeks. Redundancies are believed to be involved in the deal, but the spokesman was unable to confirm this.

Callard was bought by Guinness in 1953 as part of moves to diversify. Its factory was next door to Guinness's at Park Royal, West London but Callard, which employs 793 full-time staff, 243 part-time and 150 temporary, is now based in Halifax with another operation in Hayes, Middlesex. Activities were recently shifted as part of rationalisation plans.

C & B made pre-tax profits of £700,000 in 1979 and £400,000 in 1978 but trading has been hit by the same problems, such as VAT increases, which have beset other sweetmakers.

On Tuesday, Barker & Dobson, the sweetmaker, announced a return to profits after five years of reorganisation in its confectionery division.

## Creditors call talks on Norton Warburg

By Laura Bourke

Investors who lost money in the collapse of Norton Warburg, the failed financial adviser, are being invited to a meeting to discuss action on compensation.

Mr John Mortimer, who lost £50,000 when the company failed in February, owing an estimated £9m, wants to form an action group to consider the possibility of compensating pensioners for up to 90 per cent of their losses, established by the receivers. Some pensioners are not happy with this offer since their actual losses are around 20 to 30 per cent more than the official figures because many investments could not be traced.

## Engineers' chief attacks state policy

By Clive Cookson

In a strong and wide-ranging attack on Government policy, Dr Robert Lickley, president of the Institution of Production Engineers, accused ministers of cutting back engineering education and training, failing to support manufacturing industry, and not listening to advice from professional bodies such as his own.

Speaking at the institution's annual dinner last night, Dr Lickley said: "The Government appears to have developed a smooth transfer line which moves the oil revenue to the unemployed without any intervening checks or delays. Instead, the checks and delays exist, so it would seem, to restrain industry from becoming more efficient and to reduce the likelihood of more young people moving into engineering."

Dr Lickley said grants to universities were being cut in such a way that no engineering faculties would have substantial growth, most would have no growth, and some would get smaller. At the same time the Government was demanding cuts in the Science and Engineering Research Council.

He called for a combined effort from Government, industry, trade unions, and professional engineers to increase Britain's share of the world market by 1 per cent a year for the next five years. That would reduce unemployment by at least a million by 1985.

Viscount Caldecote, president of the Fellowship of Engineering, echoed Dr Lickley's criticisms. He said engineers and the resources available to them were being wasted by "decisions taken on vital issues, often by people totally ignorant of the most elementary principles of engineering."

## BPM HOLDINGS plc RECESSION HITS PROFITS

The 34th Annual General Meeting of BPM Holdings plc was held on November 25th, 1981, in Birmingham.

The following are extracts from the circulated statement of the chairman, Sir Michael Chapman, KBE.

This time last year I warned that the newspaper cycle must be expected to continue its downward course. I did not foresee quite how steep the decline would be, or how much the less cyclical businesses which it had been our strategy to acquire would be hit by the worst recession for fifty years. This struck the West Midlands with exceptional violence, unemployment in the region—in earlier recessions one of the least affected—rose to nearly 14% by the end of our financial year.

The fall in the average real income of West Midlandsers affected almost all parts of the Group's business. Most newspapers lost some circulation; the dailies were hit severely by the loss of situations vacant advertising and some loss of general advertising, the latter also affecting the weeklies. Retailing was less profitable in the West Midlands though our latest retailing acquisition, David Mallow, did better in the more southerly market. Group profits from non-newspaper activities other than newspaper publishing contributions more than half, consequently remained at the low level reported at the half-year stage, totalling £2.6 million for the year compared with £2.7 million for 1979/80. The Board is proposing a final dividend of 16.71p, making a total for the year of 23.7p.

It is not however our intention to sit back and await the upturn of the cycle. Vigorous steps are being taken to pursue the less profitable areas, to enhance our earnings from the more profitable ones, and to reduce administrative costs.

We have intensified our efforts to contain the costs associated with The Birmingham Post, and this has meant that our journalists have had to be prepared and will need in the future to be even more prepared to combine their efforts and resources in the service of both publications.

West Midlands Press Limited, which was early in the field with computerised typesetting, is engaged in a programme of modernising this equipment. London and Westminster Newspapers Limited has increased the area covered by its publications, adding four new titles. ABC Weekly Advertiser Limited was able to increase its profits, particularly as a result of the expansion of its leaflet distribution business.

Retailing profits exceeded £1 million for the first time but the inclusion of David Mallow & Co. Ltd, acquired in August, 1980, more than accounted for the increase on last year. T. Dillon & Company Limited was hit by the recession in the West Midlands and, to a lesser extent, in the Manchester area. Supermarkets Limited enjoyed a successful Christmas as ever, but found it impossible to maintain real volumes over the rest of the year.

West Midlands Envelopes Limited repeated its last year's profit of just over £120,000 in much more difficult market conditions.

Our Midlands Ideal Home Exhibition returned successfully to Bingley Hall in September 1980. However, the Boat and Caravan Show at the National Exhibition Centre in February 1981 suffered badly from the major recession in the boating industry.

I have mentioned the changes made by integrating the editorial staffs of the two main daily newspapers. On the production side, too, changes in practices and economies in manpower have been needed. My colleagues and I would like to give our thanks to all those whose co-operation has helped our business weather the storm.

The Report and Accounts were adopted.

**BPM HOLDINGS plc**  
28 Colmore Circus, Birmingham B4 6AX

## BUSINESS BRIEFING

### Tough line on Japan vans

Japanese motor industry leaders were yesterday presented with unequivocal demands from their British counterparts for a big reduction in exports of light commercial vehicles to the United Kingdom next year.

The British delegation, led by Mr Geoffrey Moore, president of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, is believed to have adopted the toughest stance towards Japanese imports since the biannual talks between the two industries began in 1975.

The two days of discussions, held in London, end today with the issuing of a joint statement in which the Japanese are expected once again to reaffirm their "prudent" marketing policies for the United Kingdom. The British "want" the Japanese to cut, in particular, their share of the light van market from its present level of about 20 per cent to under 11 per cent.

### COURT ACTION ON STEEL

The EEC Commission has opened court proceedings against Belgium for alleged illicit payments to Cockerill-Sambre, the country's loss-making steel company, a Commission spokesman said in Brussels.

The Belgian Government has been given two weeks to justify the payments.

He said if its explanation does not satisfy the Commission, Belgium will be taken before the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg.

Under EEC regulations, state aid to Community industries must be approved by the Commission to ensure that it does not distort fair competition.

### Office deal

Legal and General, the insurance group, has paid £10m to buy out the tenants' interests of Bankers Trust and Lloyds Bank in the City office block, Bucklebury House, Cannon Street, which it owns.



Lord Robens, above, the veteran politician, is now chairman of Johnson Matthey, the precious metal refiners, traders and bankers. The company's half-year pre-tax profits to the end of September rose by £3.5m. The dividend was maintained at 3p net.

### Two factories for Wales

A joint venture in carpet manufacturing will provide more than 200 jobs at two new factories at Crumlin, near Newport, South Wales.

Abingdon Carpets of Oxfordshire, has joined forces with Texturex, a subsidiary of Crown America, to set up a new company, Texturex Europe, which will manufacture nylon yarn at one of the factories.

The yarn will be supplied to the second factory to be built near by for Abingdon Carpets.

### Britain urged to join EMS

UNICE, the European employers' federation, yesterday urged Mrs Thatcher to take Britain into the European Monetary System "for the sake of stability."

The Prime Minister was non-committal on the subject, Signor Guido Carli, the federal president, said after the Downing Street meeting.

## What kind of recovery? page 21

## Why top UK business people are out of date

By Margaret Pagnan

Stable, reliable, responsible and straight as a die—such are the sterling attributes which would seem to hallmark Britain's top business people.

They tend to be aged 50, male, still married to the first wife, earning between £35,000 and £40,000 a year, static in one job for about 20 years, looking for security and not wealth for reward and averse to taking risks. What-ifs they are not.

This profile of the country's bosses emerged yesterday from a survey taken from the reactions of 418 top executives employed by the largest United Kingdom companies in The Times Top 1,000 list. The survey leads Professor David North, of the London Business School, to question whether these men are competent enough to lead Britain out of the recession.

Professor North led the London Business School's research team on behalf of Korn/Ferry International, one of the world's highest executive search management recruitment companies which advises 750 groups each year.

"If we don't change our business ideas then I believe Britain will gently decline further from being the third most impoverished nation in the West to the first," Professor North said.

"It appears that our leader is a product of the 60s and 70s when the rules of the game were different. It can be argued that their management style is based upon outdated experience," he continued.

The manager of the 80s and 90s must take more risks within a more acute reward and evaluation system which can only be achieved if our larger companies decentralize into smaller units.

Sir John Trelawny, deputy managing director of Korn/Ferry, London, added, however, that British managers are in demand worldwide in control positions for these very same characteristics—stability, reliability, responsibility and straightforwardness.

The study, British Corporate Leaders, is available from Korn/Ferry International, 2-4 King Street, St James's, London SW1. Price £10.00.

Diary, page 21



## Shipping fraud trial may last 8 months

Copenhagen, November 25 — A lower court here tomorrow starts what provides to be at least eight months of litigation in the trial of Mr. Fredrik Odjell, the Norwegian shipowner and Mr. Max Sørensen, his Danish associate, on charges of defrauding some 1,500 Danish and Norwegian investors of about 600 kroner (£4.7m).

Charged, too, are two Danish certified auditors who signed the accounts of a Danish-registered company through which Mr. Odjell and Mr. Sørensen handled the sale of shares in nine freighters to be operated by a limited partnership association called Scandinavian Partner Ship (SPS).

Danish and Norwegian investors were attracted not only by a long-time financial gain, but also by the immediate benefit of advance income-tax cuts for depreciation of part of their investments. However, they ended up the losers because some of the ships were never built and the others became losses as Mr. Odjell's Frenco Shipping Company went bankrupt and failed to fulfill a promised 10-year bareboat charter of the SPS vessels.

The court has set aside two weekly sessions from now on until late next June to deal with the case which, in the event of conviction of Mr. Odjell and Mr. Sørensen, is also likely to pave the way for compensation claims from hundreds of investors.

The prosecution also asserts the investors were defrauded by prospectus and advertisements offering shares in a number of freighters ordered.

Both Mr. Odjell and Mr. Sørensen are expected to plead innocent to the charges of fraud tomorrow.

According to the 14-page charge sheet to be presented by the prosecution, the Scandinavian Partnership investors were defrauded in various ways, but generally the charge is that their money was not used for the stated purposes and that the investors were being misled.

In the prosecution's version shipbuilding contracts were cancelled without the knowledge of the investors, or financial reports of Danish-registered companies administering the SPS freighters disguised the flow of money and failed to take into account the shaky financial situation of Mr. Odjell's Frenco Shipping Company.

— AP.

## Poles devalue to discourage buying sprees

By Roger Boyes

Poland is to devalue the zloty by between 10 and 20 per cent against a number of East European currencies. The move is being made after complaints from countries such as Hungary and Bulgaria that Polish tourists are buying up large quantities of food on short trips.

According to the PAP news agency, the National Bank of Poland is to devalue the zloty by almost 20 per cent against the Hungarian forint and the Bulgarian lev and by 10 per cent against the Soviet rouble and Czechoslovak crown.

The devaluation, it is understood, applies only to the tourist rate of exchange and not to trade exchanges within Comecon, the communist trading block. Western currencies will not be affected.

Although the devaluation may well help to boost tourism to Poland, its principal motive appears to be to discourage shopping sprees by Poles in neighbouring countries.

All the East European countries are reporting food shortages this winter.

East Germany recently admitted that its grain harvest would fall well short of the target of nine million tonnes and the Romanian corn crop is officially expected to be a little more than 20 million tonnes compared to a planned 23.7 million tonnes.

Bulgaria this month banned the export by foreign visitors of meat, sugar, cooking oil, flour and rice. A 300 per cent duty was imposed on tourists taking dairy products, canned foods,

tea and coffee out of the country.

These measures were aimed as much at Romania, where many foods are rationed, as at Poland. The Bulgarian measures have proved largely ineffective and pressure has mounted on Poland to control food purchases. Devaluation of the zloty is one of the few possibilities open to the Polish government.

Comecon has become increasingly anxious about the disruptive effect of the Polish crisis on the economic plans of Eastern Europe.

Poland, for example, is an important market for engineering products from East Germany, but these exports are having to be cut back. The sharp drop in Polish coal deliveries to East Germany and Czechoslovakia is aggravating energy shortages.

Polish sources report the collapse of deals with East Germany whereby Poland supplies coal to the East Germans in return for being plugged into an electricity grid. The result has been frequent power black-outs along the border.

Both East Germany and Czechoslovakia have relatively strong economies and would normally have been able to cope with the Polish turmoil. But the recession in the West means that export markets have been shrinking at a time when more hard currency is needed to buy food to compensate for poor harvests. East Germany, for example, is expected to spend at least \$400m (£200m) on grain imports over the next nine months.

He said the Community also faced increasing costs for financing unemployment. In Britain, one jobless person cost the Government £13,000 (£6,725) a year, and 180 jobs were lost every day in the Community in one of the hardest-hit sectors, steel.

The meeting decided to call for a Ministerial Conference in Geneva next November.

October consumer prices in the European Community were up 1.1 per cent from September and 12.8 per cent from October 1980. Highest rate of inflation in the Community in October was registered in Greece, where prices rose by 2.6 per cent.

## Late bookings may save winter holiday trade

From Derek Harris, Phoenix, Arizona, Nov 25

A reported rush of late bookings might just save the winter sun package holiday industry from disaster this year, the Association of British Travel Agents convention was told here today.

Bookings have been down 20 per cent on last year. But with winter sports holidays holding up, winter packages may finish up only 5 per cent down, Mr. Richard Gapper, managing director of Pickfords Travel, the largest high street travel agency network in Britain with 183 outlets, predicted.

"There has been a very noticeable increase in later winter bookings. The tour operators' aggressive pricing policies are also a factor", he said.

## EEC chief talks of another 30s crisis

Geneva, Nov 25. — The European Economic Community is going through its worst economic crisis since the war, Mr. Paul Luyten, the Community's Belgian director for external relations, told the annual meeting of the 86 nations of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade today.

Afterwards, he said at a news conference that a repeat of the world economic crisis of the 1930s could not be excluded.

Mr. Luyten said that the Community's industry production had fallen about 3.2 per cent over the last 12 months, the unemployment rate had risen from 5.2 to 8.3 per cent, representing nearly 10 million people, inflation continued at more than 12 per cent, the trade deficit remained at \$45,000m (£23,280m) and interest rates had reached an unprecedented 16 per cent.

Mr. Luyten added: "Around 200,000 extra jobs are being lost every month in the European Community because of bankruptcies and lay-offs."

Mr. Luyten said the present economic conditions required greater co-operation and more determined efforts by all Community members to uphold their trading principles.

At the news conference, Mr. Luyten said he was speaking in particular to Japan, but also to other member states, among them the oil exporters, who were now better off than the EEC. He stressed that the Community expects Japan to open its markets to more exports in view of its trade deficit with Japan of \$13,000m. He added: "We have been discussing this easing of Japanese import restrictions with them for more than four years, but things are moving extremely slowly."

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Oxford Street imports: of the single shoes displayed outside this London store, 17 were Brazilian, four French, two Italian and the rest British

## Shoemakers on the rack

By Rupert Morris

Britain's shoemakers are appealing to the Government for urgent measures to support their industry which suffered job losses of 12 per cent in 1980 as a result of steeply rising imports and a steadily declining home market.

A report published today by the Footwear Economic Development Committee shows that the decline in sales in 1980 was the worst since the war. High sterling exchange rates have restricted exports and encouraged cheap imports, particularly from the Far East.

Pre-tax trading profits for footwear manufacturers were down to a lowest-recorded figure of 3 per cent in 1980, while employment slumped from 71,500 to 63,100.

However, the report says that, in comparison with some European footwear industries, the United Kingdom has been more resistant to foreign competition. Main recommendations are:

□ The Government should press for fair trading practices by removing barriers to United Kingdom exports. Failing this, it should support an EEC policy of import controls.

□ More effective and speedy action should be taken against dumping, including retaliation.

□ The temporary short-time working scheme should be strengthened and continued.

□ Safety footwear meeting appropriate national standards should be made mandatory in hazardous circumstances.

This last recommendation was prompted by a tendency on the part of companies to buy cheaper safety footwear from abroad which would not meet the standards the committee considers desirable. Imports of safety footwear rose from 56 per cent to 67 per cent last year. The report calls on unions to negotiate safety footwear agreements where possible.

The report also urges employers to give priority to investment in new technology, to improve marketing and maximize communications between manufacturers and retailers so the industry can respond quickly to market needs.

In an effort to encourage exports, the committee is

sending a representative to Germany next week. It has also elevated export marketing to the premier category in the industry's marketing award scheme.

With the home market depressed, export markets are seen as the main hope for halting the shoe industry's decline. The report shows that, whereas the United Kingdom has a 15 per cent share of EEC footwear production, its share of total EEC consumption was only 1.3 per cent in 1980.

The worst decline in sales in 1980 was of 24 per cent in women's sandals, where imports rose from 52 per cent to 62 per cent. In men's and children's footwear, rising imports were more or less cancelled out by exports, notably to Libya.

United Kingdom imports in 1980 came 40.8 per cent from the Far East, of which more than half came from Hong Kong and South Korea — 36.4 per cent from the EEC — of which Italy, by far the biggest single source of imports, claimed 29.6 per cent — with 22 per cent coming from the rest of the world.

## Employment Gazette

### £1,400m a year cost of accidents at work

By Frances Williams

Accidents at work cost the country between £700m and £1,400m a year in lost production, damage to equipment and medical expenses, according to estimates for 1978-79 by the Health and Safety Executive.

When the pain, grief and suffering of the victims, their relatives and friends are taken into account, the costs are substantially greater.

The study, a summary of which is published in the latest issue of the *Employment Gazette*, puts a tentative value of £400m on these "subjective costs" of industrial accidents, based on the sum society is willing to pay out in social security benefits to the victims and their families.

The study also reckons that workers suffering from

## Slow move to worker involvement

By David Felton

Company managements are slowly moving towards more employee involvement in their decisions, but realize the benefits to be gained by consulting their workforces on business performance, according to a Confederation of British Industry survey published yesterday.

The survey, which covered 413 large and small companies employing a total of more than three million people — 25 per cent of the private sector workforce — also revealed that many companies were not carrying out enough joint consultation.

Sir Raymond Pennock, CBI president, said: "If these are the kind of results we get from the best companies, then the worst will surely give cause for concern". Sir Raymond added: "The CBI asked 1,047 companies to participate in the survey."

Sir Raymond said extension of employee involvement would be "a very important priority" for his remaining term as president, and a series of meetings of industrialists is to be held around the country in the next few months to try to persuade executives to seek more worker participation.

Sir Raymond said that the survey showed there had been an increase over the past three years in the number of companies which involved workers in decision-making, and it was also clear that employers did not favour legislation on the matter.

"The CBI has always argued that the voluntary approach to involvement is the right one and that legislation would in practice do little to improve relationships and understanding", the CBI president said.

Sir Raymond continued: "Now more than ever before, companies must ensure their employees really are involved in decision-making, otherwise many of the lessons of economic reality painfully learnt through and during the recession could be lost in the future by shortsighted actions and industrial conflict."

## Overtime pick-up points to easing of recession

The easing of recession, evident from production and other figures over the past few months, is reflected in the statistics for overtime and short time working. Short time fell again in September from 2.4 to 2.2 million hours a week, down by a quarter from the January peak of 8.5 million hours. This compares with well below a million hours a week before the recession began in mid-1979.

The proportion of manual workers in manufacturing on short time has fallen from nearly 14 per cent in January to about 4½ per cent in September, with the West Midlands hardest hit (9 per cent of its blue-collar workers on short time) and the South East least affected (2 per cent on short time).

Overtime working in September was similar to the previous month at 10.2 million hours a week, up from the low point of 8 million hours a week in March, but substantially less than the 15 million hours a week of overtime being worked at the end of 1979.

The pick-up in activity in manufacturing industry since the summer is also reflected in labour turnover figures. These show a rise in the engagement rate to nearly 1½ per 100 employees in September, about twice the rate at the beginning of the year.

In contrast, the late 1970s saw an engagement rate between 1½ and 2½ per cent while in the 1950s and 1960s the rate varied between 2½ and 3 per cent.

Days lost through strikes rose to 294,000 in October, according to provisional figures published in the *Gazette*, from 157,000 in September and 106,000 in August. The total for the first 10 months of 1981 of nearly 3.5 million days lost is the lowest for 14 years, apart from 1976 when 3.3 million days were lost through strikes in the whole year.

Eleven strikes accounted for more than three-quarters of the days lost in October.

## W German surplus

West Germany announced its first balance of payments surplus for more than two years, reflecting a surge in exports over recent months and falling imports, especially of oil. Statistics show a current account surplus of DM 2,900m (£675m) last month.

## Discount rate

Japan's industrial structure could have proposed to the Minister of International Trade and Industry that the 6.25 per cent Bank of Japan official discount rate should be lowered as soon as conditions are right to encourage capital spending and economic expansion.

## Japan export record

The Japan machinery exporters' association reported yesterday that overseas shipments in the first half of fiscal 1981 reached an all-time high for any six-month period on record. The exports totalled \$51,700m (£26,700m), a 23.8 per cent jump on the corresponding period last year.

## West for sharp cut in dependence on OPEC

From Michael Parrott, Paris, Nov 25

The West's dependence on supplies from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is likely to fall sharply during the next 20 years as oil becomes a much less important element in energy requirements.

According to a report published in Paris by the International Energy Agency, net oil imports of member-countries will fall to 14.8 million barrels a day in the year 2000, from 24.5

million in 1979. This is because the share taken by North America would fall from 294 to 285 and from 426 to 100 (million tonnes respectively).

The report, entitled *Shaping the Energy Transition*, was prepared by Mr. Richard Laming, an energy economist working at the agency. Although the agency insists that the opinions expressed in the report are those of the author, it is the first time the

## IN BRIEF

### Rediffusion to sell subsidiary

Rediffusion is to sell Rediffusion CMC Europe, the computer subsidiary which it bought only two years ago. Mr. Richard Overend, the group financial controller, refused to identify the company which is to buy Rediffusion CMC, for "a nominal consideration".

Rediffusion CMC, known as Telstar until Rediffusion acquired it in 1979, does not operate in Britain and Mr. Overend said the sale would have no effect on the British subsidiary.

Rediffusion Computers, of Crawley, West Sussex.

Rediffusion has a factory near Paris, employing nearly 100 people, and corporate offices in several other European countries.

### China loan

China is to float its first loan on the international capital market in the coming weeks. China International Trust and Investment Corporation will issue a placement of notes in Japan for a value of 10,000 million yen (£23.8m). A second 10,000 million yen will be launched later.

### Airline shares sale

The Japanese government, the largest shareholder of Japan Air Lines, is to sell 2.53 million JAL shares to investors and corporate concerns next month. The government stake will then fall to 38.3 per cent from 40.3 per cent.

### AEG in Hongkong

AEG-Telefunken, the West German electrical group, is entering a joint venture with Sun Hing Kai (China), of Hongkong, to export and market consumer goods. AEG-Telefunken SHK China, with capital totalling HK\$15m (£2,250), will explore the Chinese market for industrial installations and electrical products.

### Austrian wages

Austrian wage negotiators are falling in line with their counterparts elsewhere in Europe by accepting significant cuts in real wages. Two leading unions have already agreed to wage increases far below most inflation projections.

### Italian gap falls

Italy's seasonally adjusted gross domestic product fell 3.6 per cent in the 1981 third quarter from the previous quarter and was down 0.3 per cent from the year-earlier quarter. The decline was said to be due to the slump in industrial activity.

### German car sales

Car sales in West Germany fell 1.6 per cent in the 1981 third quarter from the previous quarter and compared with 200,500 in October 1980. Sales for the first 10 months were 2.02 million against 2.13 million a year earlier.

### The 1m peso note

The Argentine Central Bank began circulating a new 1m peso banknote yesterday, the highest denomination note circulated in the country. It is worth about \$83 (£46).

### Chinese oil

Speakers at an oil conference in Peking have suggested China may be able to double its oil production in 20 years, reducing Asia's dependence on uncertain Middle East supplies.

### W German surplus

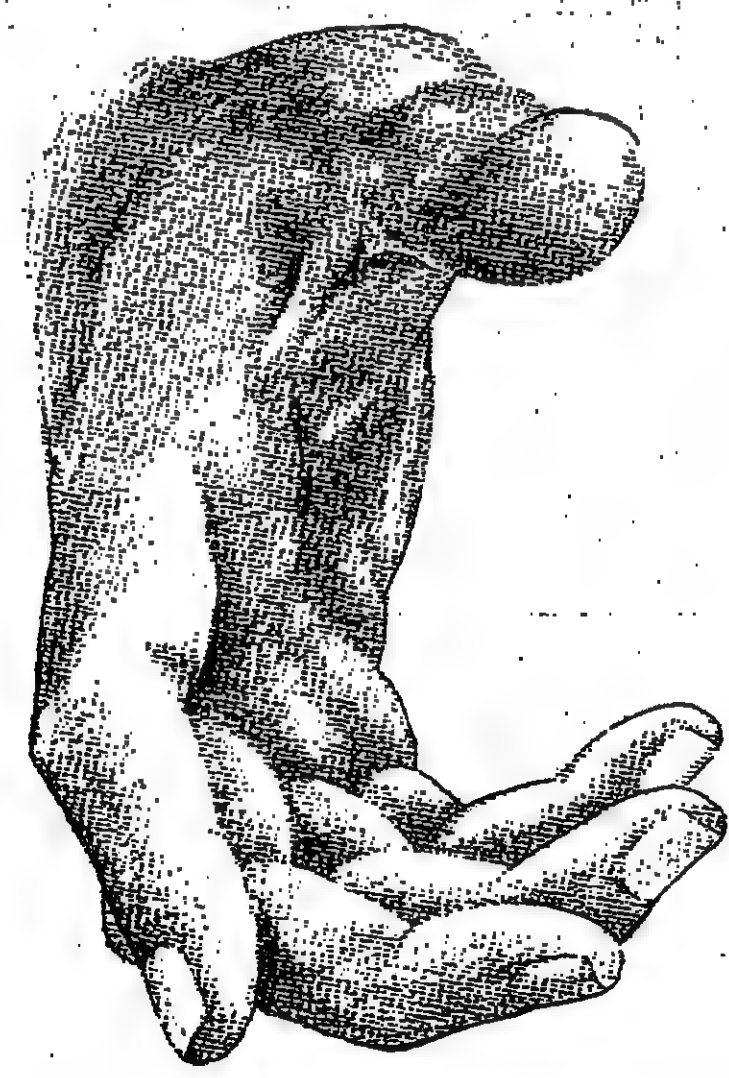
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## WELCOME to Amro Bank's new offices in London

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

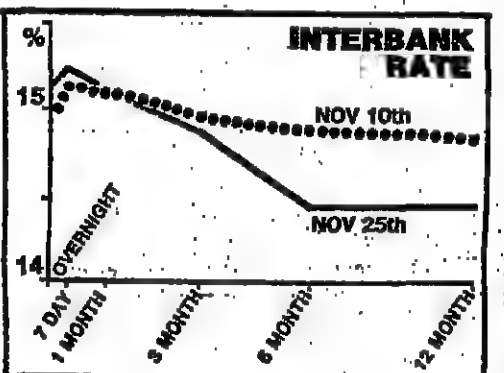
## Rothmans rides the fall in sterling

After losing out by £15m last year because of a strong pound, Rothmans has since been enjoying sterling's decline. Of the £11.8m rise in pretax profits to £52.6m in the half-year to September 30, perhaps £8m was due to exchange rate movements. This apart, there has been some underlying growth. Associate companies lifted their contribution by four-fifths to £12.5m, reflecting strong performances in Ireland, the Far East and Antipodes. For the group as a whole Rothmans is claiming a 1 per cent gain in tobacco volume, as well as better margins, although the group shared fully in the sharp drop in the United Kingdom market. Price competition has eased, however, in the United Kingdom and export volume was up.

Since the end of the half year sterling has clawed back about 7 per cent against the dollar and the final outcome will clearly depend heavily on year-end currency rates. Current cost figures have also been hammered in the first half by a much larger cost of sales adjustment on leaf stocks where the price has been pushed up by a stronger dollar, but Rothmans, which has traditionally boasted at least a securely covered dividend, expects the current cost position to look better in the second half.

With currencies still very much the unknown factor, then, historic cost profits could run out at around £50m this year compared with £71m in 1980-81, and assuming the 15 per cent half-year dividend rise is carried through to the final, the shares — up 2 1/2 to 8 1/2p yesterday — yield a prospective 7.4 per cent. At this level, though, the real influence on the shares is more whether Philip Morris with its 22 per cent stake will eventually bid further than the fundamentals.

● The Bank of England dropped its dealing rates in its open market operations by one sixteenth of a point yesterday. All the signs are that the authorities would not, in fact, object to a half point cut in base rates in the near future. The clearing banks' problem continues to be that hump at the very short end of the interbank yield curve, still slightly more pronounced than when they last cut base rates earlier this month.



### Burton Group After the recovery

The question posed by the latest figures from Burton Group is this: what does the clothing chain do for an encore? Pretax profits for the year to August have climbed from £12.6m to £16.4m on sales down from £196m to £190m. The obvious fear is that with the bulk of its streamlining and surgery over, Burton will now be viewed as a dull, straightforward clothing retailer tempted to flood the market with share paper to make an acquisition or two.

In its latest year Burton has closed more manufacturing capacity and sold fringe laggards and loss-makers such as Evans Mail Order, Ryman, and the French interests. And it is less elimination of some £4m in these areas that explains the rise to £18.7m in trading profits. A fall in borrowings has meant



Mr. Ralph Halpern, chairman, Burton Group

Further loss elimination could carry operating profits up from £14.5m to around £16m this year, and total profits, including exceptional, from £16.4m to, say, £18m, if the group continues to gain market share. The bigger dividend (precluding a yield of just over 7 per cent) is 1.4 times covered by profits, inflation adjusted, and the group still owns the freehold of two fifths of its property.

### Kwik Save Winning the price war

Full year pretax profits of £19.3m from Kwik Save were towards the lower end of market expectations, with the group unable quite to match the exceptional pace of the previous year's second half. Even so, there is little to quibble at. The pretax figure may be up only 27 per cent on last year, which took in some exceptional property profits, but the growth in trading is just over a third.

With shoppers ever more cost conscious, the company has benefited from its continuing price advantage, not least as rivals such as Tesco have started to pull back from the price war. Volume through existing selling space was 5 per cent up on the previous year. In addition, rentals from concessionaires inside Kwik Save's stores raised their contribution from £2.7m to £3.7m, while lower stock levels improved cash flow and generated interest earnings of £841,000 against a net debit of £72,000 a year earlier.

### Hongkong Wharf Merger terms challenged

Just when it looked as if Sir Yue-kong Pao was bringing to an end a sorry and expensive chapter in the history of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company by merging it through a reverse takeover with his World International shipping group, some Wharf shareholders are crying "foul!" The crux of their argument is that Wharf's paying at least HK\$3,200m (£300m), by issuing 411 million new shares at a discount to net asset value, and paying HK\$583m in cash, is poor exchange for buying a shipping fleet recently valued at HK\$2,400m, especially when Wharf shareholders can look forward to the fruits of property developments now underway.

The shareholders in question are understood to be mostly outside the Jardine, Matheson camp from which Sir Yue-kong so spectacularly wrenched Wharf last year, although their financial advisers are Jardine, Fleming, Jardine, Fleming yesterday advised rejection of Sir Yue-kong's terms. Also taking a close look at the terms may be the colony's much-abused Takeovers Committee.

## Economic notebook

### What kind of recovery?

The Chancellor had a tough only expected to rise by 8 per cent in the year to next spring. On this basis, the Select Committee about how the Treasury, Mr. Nigel Lawson, argued that the government's policy was not

little bemused by it all, since the latest figures for output gave ample room to finance a show quite clearly that a slow recovery has at last begun. Since then the numbers have changed. Inflation is now nearly 12 per cent, money supply has grown by more than the Government had hoped, but the plan is to rein in the next 12 months it back in as the effects of the Civil Service strike unwind. This theory gives little room for optimism about growth next year.

The theory is usually known as the "cross-over" theory. This is because it says that when money supply, allowing for problems about how fast the money goes round, is set to grow slower than inflation this is a downturn and when it is growing faster there is expansion.

The turnaround comes when the inflation rate falls below the planned growth of the money supply and the two lines cross over each other.

The Government has announced plans for the money supply up to 1984. Its inflation projections are set to fall until next week, but few expect a recovery since the 2 figure inflation next year. So per cent this year, its end is a powerful positive force. It virtually guarantees some recovery over the next year, but it is essentially short term.

On its own it cannot generate a sustained recovery of significant proportions. Where can real recovery come from? This lies at the heart of the debate between the Chancellor and his critics. Most sceptics of the government's policy point out that, destocking apart, most of the economic components look decidedly weak in the future. Living standards are dropping, which tends to cut consumption. Investment is depressed and, in manufacturing at least, looks likely to fall.

### Trade

Public spending is meant to go down in the next year, but it is well below the level of an expected downturn in world trade; in any case, the net effect of our trade with the rest of the world should be negative because imports are rising.

For a recovery to be sustained, one of these forces must improve. The Chancellor hopes British goods will become more competitive, cutting our imports and increasing our exports. Critics of the present policy say we have already become so uncompetitive because of the events of the last two years that natural forces will take many years to improve matters.

They argue that only a devaluation making British goods cheaper can do that in the short term. Alternatively, the government will have to boost home demand, either by increasing its spending or cutting taxes or both. What role does the money supply play in all this? Some people in the Government who had hoped to see a recovery this year thought that money supply would provide the means. The Government had intended to let money supply grow by between 6 and 10 per cent this year, while prices were



Leopold Vielhaber: exporting skis to Austria.

## Off the nursery slopes

There has been the first dusting of winter on the Highland summits. In the gullies of Ben Nevis and Glencoe the cold will soon freeze the choked snow into hard ribbons of ice and in the alps the snowfalls are descending.

To that seasonal rhythm is attached an industry in Britain turning over at least £200m a year in equipment and clothing, and selling everything from the elegant fashions of the skier to the hardy survival gear of the winter mountaineer.

In the last four years a proliferation of small manufacturing firms has broadened the range of outdoor sports products and attacked the continental companies exporting to Britain. But the recession has squeezed profit margins and driven some to the wall.

"It is totally untrue to say that it is all growth, that this industry doesn't feel the cold in the economy," says Mr. Michael Parsons, managing director of Karrimor International, one of the leading outdoor equipment makers.

At the present major distributors and retailers are fighting very hard. The only reassurance is that leisure has an obvious future when the economy picks up again. Outdoor sports are now becoming woven even into the educational system.

Mr. Ron Taylor, chairman of the Camping and Outdoor Leisure Association which represents a large section of the clothing and equipment wholesalers in the industry, has a rather different perspective on leisure. "Without being cynical there are already three million people who know all about extra leisure time. With the micro chip technology shortening the working week for people who have jobs the government must eventually do something to encourage the creative use of all the spare time there is going to be."

"We need to follow the European example and learn how to enjoy leisure to the full." One Scottish company which has entered an area once dominated totally by the continentals is Vielhaber Skis. Vielhaber, an Austrian who came to Scotland on holiday

in 1967, ran out of money and stayed. "I started by repairing skis and then manufacturing them. We now make 2,000 skis a year and are the only ski manufacturer in Britain," says Mr. Vielhaber.

He is training staff in the mysteries of resins and carbon fibre with the aim of doubling production next year and eventually reaching 12,000 skis annually. Where many manufacturers are concentrating on the smaller, specialist side of the market.

"I started by repairing skis and then manufacturing them. We now make 2,000 skis a year and are the only ski manufacturer in Britain."

The company has a turnover of £250,000 and is setting up a national distribution network. Mr. Vielhaber has the great satisfaction of exporting skis to his native Austria.

Sweden, Austria, Finland and France still dominate ski clothing and equipment but there are encouraging signs of British manufacturers responding to the potentially rich market.

There are about a million skiers in Britain, of whom 400,000 will go abroad this winter.

"Multiply that into skis, ski suits, socks, boots and travel bookings and you have a very substantial industry," says Mr. Ian Graeme, vice-president of the British Ski Federation.

Cross country skiing has become popular although nowhere near the Swedish scale where the premier competition alone attracts five mass stars of 5,000 each. Think of that in terms of turnover and clothing when a decent pair of skis

costs about £100 and a skisuit may be £150. For the mountaineer winter can be costly. Down-filled clothing, survival gear, harnesses, snow anchors, ropes, double-thickness boots, crampons and a selection of ice screws and karabiners topped by a rucksack and woolly hat may set him back more than £600.

Mr. Hugh McNicholl, an ice-climbing enthusiast and former aerospace engineer with Rolls-Royce, recently opened a factory at Ballachulish, between Oban and Fort William producing ice axes and winter climbing equipment.

"Demand is good and interest in winter climbing is growing chiefly because of what modern materials make possible," he says. "I am processing about 1,000 ice axes at the moment and looking for two more people to come into the business with me". Mountain Technology, as the company is called, has been helped by the Highlands and Islands Development Board, a government body aiming to improve employment in the area.

At the established end of the industry some companies that started life as suppliers to mountaineering retailers are branching out. Troll Safety Equipment of Oldham, which specialises in climbing harnesses which absorb the shock of a fall without injury or allow the climber to dangle comfortably from his cliff, reports that 15 per cent of its output goes to industry to steeljacks, electricity linemen or foresters seeking greater comfort in high-level work.

The company has improved annual turnover from £30 in 1963 to £600,000 this year and 40 per cent of production is exported.

Troll products withstood tests by a group from the Oxford University Danger Club who, wearing morning dress and Troll harnesses, jumped from a suspension bridge and dropped several hundred feet before their fall was painlessly checked. More effort is now going to be put into industrial applications. The mountaineering market has, so to speak, peaked.

Ronald Faux

## Business Diary: What Beeching would do

Were the Government to ask Lord Beeching to chair its proposed new inquiry into the railways he would give it "my earnest consideration" his lordship said from his Sussex home yesterday with the kind of weighty phrase associated with his chairmanship of BR in the early sixties.

"But I would not necessarily decide to do it," he added guardedly, bespeaking continued disillusion with governments.

"It might be a good idea to have a new inquiry," he said, "but what is really needed is action. I left a perfectly good plan just before I left the railways in 1965. It should have been implemented."

That was his sequel to the famous Beeching report, the Trunk Route Rationalization Plan, which called for a reduction in Britain's railway from about 14,500 miles, as it then was, to 6,000. It may happen yet, but by a process of slow attrition rather than the fast logic he applied.

"The railway problem has not changed," said the 68-year-old peer. "It is basically the same but considerably worse, because the taxpayer is now being charged five times as much to keep it going." The solution is still to tailor the network to those routes between large centres of population where heavy flows of passengers and freight are right for rail. Paying £750m a year for the rest was simply camouflage. There may be a benefit to someone, but I should like to see it demonstrated." Com-



Two images of "British Corporate Leaders". Which would you say is the truth?

### Kora lore

Hands up anybody who chooses Richard Willson's right-hand cartoon as representative of the British boss, or worse still, sees himself in it. In the first case you are wrong, and in the second, unrepresentative, or so says Professor David Norburn of the London Business School. Norburn heads a team of LBS graduate students who checked out 418 executives in big companies taken from The Times Top 1000 and found "the external image is

much different to the expected profile." Your archetypal British boss, Norburn and his team found, is a 50-year-old man, and one who seldom drinks or smokes, is still on his first wife by whom he has two children. He has been 20 years with his present company, seldom suffers from stress, rarely takes home work and gets eight hours' sleep a night.

That does not sound much like most of the bosses I have known, and indeed it does not sound too much like either Norburn or the man

who commissioned British corporate leaders profile, Sir John Trelawny, the deputy managing director of the executive search company Korn/Ferry International. Norburn is 40, ten years younger than his "Mr. Average," works for six different organizations, is on his second wife, needs at least eight hours sleep a night, does suffer stress.

Sir John Trelawny, at 47 and still with a number one, is a bit more average than far, but admits to drinking and smoking too much.

### Hello (plus VAT)

You really have to hand it to the folks at Channel 4 — or do you?

The "it" in question is £150 (plus VAT), which is what potential advertisers are being asked for a preliminary look-see at what the new television channel has in store.

You will have to wait for another year to see the real thing, but in January the conference organizers Oyze IBC are staging a one day affair called "Introducing Channel 4" which will be addressed by chief executive Jeremy Isaacs and managing director Justin Dukes.

Interestingly enough, the chairman of the proceedings will not be Channel 4's own chairman Edmund Dell — who hates public speaking — but his former Labour Party colleague IBA chairman Lord Thomson of Monifieth, who just loves to be heard. It is still a moot point whether advertisers need Channel 4 more than Channel 4 needs the advertisers.

The controversy over the merits or otherwise of "pin-point" spectacles has prompted a reminiscence from reader C. F. Woodbridge of Bridgnorth. He once checked on consignments of spectacles from Hongkong meant for sale in Africa when he found that many were of plain glass. He was told that in some countries such prestige went with wearing glasses that even the perfectly-sighted wore them.

Ross Davies

## Hambros Interim Statement

### Results for the half year to 30th September, 1981

Banking profits are broadly the same as those of the same period last year. Hambro Life Assurance and Berkeley Hambro Property Company have both increased their interim dividends. Results from other non-banking operations are lower, partly due to adverse trading conditions and partly to the cost of carrying investments, especially in oil and gas, from which no benefit has been taken in the half year but where indications for the future are encouraging. The overall result for the Group is a little lower than that for the same period last year.

### Dividends

Interim dividends on the £2 (50p paid) shares and the 5p (fully paid) shares will be at rates approximately 17% above those of last year. Payment will be made on 5th January, 1982 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on 17th December, 1981. The rates of interim dividends net of tax credit will be:

£2 (50p paid) shares: 15.25p per share (1980: 13p)  
5p (fully paid) shares: 1.525p per share (1980: 1.3p)  
£1 "A" shares: 2.1p per share (1980: 2.1p)

**Hambros PLC**



## FINANCIAL NEWS

## Stock markets

## Equities advance after new cut in US prime

London continued to take its cue from New York in a day of fluctuating fortunes when interest rates remained the main focus.

Equities opened strongly with investors convinced that a cut in domestic base rates was imminent after Tuesday night's 1 per cent reduction to 15 1/2 per cent in US prime rates.

In the present thin conditions jobbers had no choice but to mark prices sharply higher with investors prepared to pay exorbitant sums for their stocks. Nevertheless the tactic appeared to work and by mid-

morning the market showed signs of boiling over in places. This was the sign for investors to beat a hasty retreat and growing concern over the Government's continuing over-spending and a possible confrontation with the miners over pay.

Interest after hours was again restored with news of a further prime rate cut by the St Louis Bank to 15 1/2 per cent and another exceptionally strong start to trading in Wall St.

The FT Index opened 7.9 up then retreated to a net rise of 3.5 at 1 pm and finally closed 6.2 up at 526.2.

Glits reported a steadier performance with further hefty gains reported at the lower end of the market on the back of the latest surge in the value of sterling and the continuing rally on the US bond market.

At the shorter end the Government broker was able to supply around £150m of the new short tap Exchequer 14 per cent 1986 at £401. In addition, he was reported to have

sold small amounts from the three mini-taps announced last Friday.

The final picture showed bonds closing below their best levels. ICI rose 4p to 286p. Glaxo 2p to 432p. Rowater 2p to 210p. GKN 6p to 173p. Grand Metropolitan 3p to 178p. Tube Investments 2p to 106p. Vickers 5p to 150p. Allied-Lyons, reporting next week, closed 1p dearer at 72 1/2p.

Against the trend, Bechem shed 2p to 223p. Fisons 2p to 133p. Hawker Siddeley 2p to 318p and Courtauld, reporting today, 2p to 66p. There, analysts are looking for a first half performance of between £15m and £20m compared with the dismal corresponding figure of just over £2m.

Elsewhere, interest was further stimulated by a reasonably long list of favourable trading news. Better than expected profits news lifted Anderson Strathclyde 8p to 91p, Spring Grove 1 1/2p to 84 1/2p and Sound Diffusion 2p to 44p. Wedgwood celebrated a more than doubled profits performance with a 7 1/2p rise at 87p, but the performance from Kwik Save Discount, reporting at 232p, and Brickhouse Dudley, down 1p at 42p, were discounted.

In tobacco Rothmans International 'B' climbed 2 1/2p to 31 1/2p after its first half profits news with Alfred Dunhill 10p stronger at 238p for the same reason. BAT Industries closed 3p harder at 345p after comment.

Recent losses wiped 3p from Transparent Paper at 21p with Matthew Hall 9p up at 210p ahead of figures next week.

With the state of bid speculation and good trading news in the building sector remained a highlight. RPB Industries added 6p to 312p after recent figures with French Kier up 2p at 84 1/2p and

Redland 4p higher at 160p. Both report today. Pilkington Bros jumped 5p to 285p ahead of profits news next week-end. Barrat Developments, still making the most of its recent optimistic annual report, put on 3p to 245p before reverting to unchanged at 142p.

Blue Circle advanced 6p to 482p amid reports of a brokers' lunch at W. Greenwell and favourable comment was good. 6p on Redfern National Glass at 107p. Rumours of a 5p share bid from T. Ward in an attempt to fend off the

Share of the Bank Organisation advanced 6p to 152p after the appearance of a large buyer who picked up 150,000 shares in one go.

Attention of RTZ swept the market early, but the price closed only 5p dearer at 505p. Strong support was also seen in Tarmac, up 10p at 372p.

On the bid front, Esperanza Trading rose 3p to 143p after rejecting the terms from RTZ, up 4p at 356p. Hallite remained unchanged at 201p despite the news that Laurie Millbank had sold 25,000 shares in the market on behalf of General Tire & Rubber, who have already stated they would not be raising their 200p a share bid.

Equity turnover on November 24 was £11,797m (13,076 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Bowater, Rothmans 'B', Plessey, Scapa, Wedgwood, Hambros and Charter Options.

Traded options: Total contracts traded on 13,562 of which puts accounted for 319. ICI met support on 134 contracts.

Traditional options: Calls were made in Royal Bank of Scotland on 7p, Rothmans International on 10p, and Bougainville on 10p. A put was arranged in Royal Bank of Scotland on 16p and a double in Town & City on 31p.

## Johnson Matthey tops £23m in first half

By Michael Prest

Johnson Matthey, the bankers and precious metal fabricator and refiners, defied low gold and platinum prices by increasing pretax profits to £23.1m from £19.5m during the six months to the end of September.

But the dividend has been maintained at 3p net. This is paid, however, on shares whose number was swelled by last December's rights issue, which raised £47m.

The rights issue proceeds have been important in supporting Johnson Matthey's profits. Mr Ernest Pateman, the company's finance director, estimates that the lower interest charge released about £3m to the profit and loss account.

Nevertheless, the improved pretax result was achieved from sales of £409m compared with £433m in the first half of the previous year. After exchange gains of £4.27m on current assets, against £1.47m last year, earnings per share were 24.5p, up 0.6p.

The banking operations are holding up well, but bullion trading in London, New York and Hong Kong is suffering from both lower prices and, crucially, lower volumes. Depressed trading on the London Metal Exchange and other commodity markets also put a brake on expansion.

But the manufacturing and refining side still enjoys firm demand. Mr Pateman said the company's platinum customers had stayed loyal, despite the declining demand for the metal in which Johnson Matthey is a world leader. The Japanese platinum jewelry market, by contrast, continues to expand.

Domestic sales of colours, on which Johnson Matthey has invested heavily in recent years, were below expectations. But exports are rising and there are signs Mr Pateman said that home destocking is ending.

## Wedgwood doubles at half-time

By Margaret Pagano

Wedgwood, the fine bone china and pottery group widely regarded as the barometer of British exports, yesterday delighted the stockmarket with a 140 per cent boost in half-year pretax profits to £23.5m.

Sales of Royal Wedgwood commemorative ware, an increase in exports to the United States and other markets and the swing in sterling's value against other currencies, were all cited as reasons for the increase. In the six months to October, the group pushed turnover up from £49m to £60m.

After 'better-than-expected' trading in the first quarter which pushed pretax profits up from £176,000 to £1.2m and sales by 15 per cent, the chairman, Sir Arthur Bryan, was still cautious about trading and said that sales must be further increased before the group could claim to be back



Sir Arthur Bryan, chairman of Wedgwood.

on a satisfactory growth course. So the second quarter has confirmed that trading seems to be nearly back on course with a 31 per cent rise in sales.

## Overseas boost for Anderson Strathclyde

Pretax profits of Anderson Strathclyde, the mining and industrial equipment manufacturer, headed by former British Steel chairman Sir Monty Finniston, rose in the half year to September from £2.8m to £4.1m. Turnover increased from £37.7m to £46.2m.

The increases in turnover and profits were achieved despite the depressed home market. The activities of the group's subsidiaries in the United States, Australia and South Africa accounted for a significant part of the increases, with their combined turnover almost doubled at £12.8m and their trading profit up from £430,000 to £1.5m.

The board expects that turnover for the second half will increase more slowly than in the first six months.

## Britannia fund

Britannia Managed Currency Fund, the Jersey-based fund investing in overseas bank deposits, has obtained a listing on the London Stock Exchange from next Monday.

This follows the listing last week of another Britannia fund, the Britannia Dollar Income Fund. The Britannia Managed Currency Fund is one of the funds managed by Britannia International Investment in Jersey, a subsidiary of the Britannia Group of investment companies currently responsible for the management of more than £500m on behalf of more than 200,000 investors.

## Long &amp; Hambly

Long and Hambly fell more deeply into the red in the year to July 31 than it did in the preceding 12 months. At £11.81m to £12.03m, the group made a pretax loss of £1.24m, compared with a pretax loss of £193,000 in 1979-80. For the second year running, there is no ordinary dividend.

Mr Long expects the monthly accounting period ending on December 5 to show a small profit and, thereafter, the group should make satisfactory profits.

## Charterhall

Mr Derek Williams, chairman of Charterhall Ltd, the United Kingdom-based independent oil, gas and minerals group, revealed at the annual meeting that plans for the public flotation of the Australian Group are well advanced for the further development of Charterhall's interests in Australia. Charterhall is now well placed to consider opportunities for further increasing its asset growth.

## Monks Investment

Gross investment income of Monks Investment Trust slipped from £2.1m to £2.01m in the half year to October 31. An unchanged investment portfolio of 157p gross is being paid. The board expects to recommend a final 1.85p gross, maintaining the year's total at 3.42p gross, even though this may call for some drawing on revenue reserves.

## Essex Water

Essex Water's offer for sale by tender of £5m, 10 per cent redeemable preference stock, 1986, attracted applications for £12.34m of stock. The lowest price to receive a partial allotment was £101.52 and the average price obtained was £101.66.

## George Oliver

George Oliver's bid for Hilton Footwear is now unconditional. Oliver now owns or has received acceptances for 4.41m shares in Hilton, which is valued at £11.1m in total by the bid, according to a joint statement.

The shares of Heron Motor Group rose 5p to 28 1/2p on the news yesterday.

## BASE LENDING RATES

Bank	Rate
ABN Bank	15%
Barclays	15%
BCCI	15%
Consolidated Credit	15 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	15%
Lloyds Bank	15%
Midland Bank	15%
Nat Westminster	15%
TSB	15%
Williams and Glyn's	15%

\* 1/2p deposit on sums of £10,000 or more; 1 1/2p on £20,000 or more; 1 3/4p on £50,000 or more.

## Heron chief bids for minority

Mr Gerald Renson, who runs the Heron International petrol station, car distribution, insurance and property group, is hiding up his motor interests through the Heron Corporation subsidiary, making a bid for the 32 per cent of Heron Motor Group it does not already own. Heron Corporation may offer 28p a share for the outstanding shares in the motor company which is valued at £11.1m in total by the bid, according to a joint statement.

The shares of Heron Motor Group rose 5p to 28 1/2p on the news yesterday.

## M. J. H. Nightingale &amp; Co Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-821 1212

## The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch's	Gross	Yld	P/E	Fully
									Actual
114	100	98	ABN Edge 10% CULS	114	—	10.0	8.8	—	—
75	35	34	Airbus Group	67	—	4.7	7.0	10.6	14.7
52	21	20	Armstrong & Rhodes	43	—	4.7	10.0	3.6	8.1
200	924	894	Barrington Hill	191	—	9.7	5.1	9.3	11.3
104	88	86	Deborah Services	95	—	5.5	5.8	4.7	8.9
126	88	86	Frank Horsell	122	—	6.4	5.2	11.0	26.5
110	39	38	Frederick Parker	59	—	1.7	2.9	25.2	—
110	47	46	George Blair	47	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	92	TPC	100	—	7.3	7.3	7.2	10.9
112	53	52	Jackson Group	98	—	7.0	7.1	3.1	7.0
130	103	102	James Burroughs	110	—	8.7	7.9	8.0	10.1
334	244	243	Robert Jenkins	277	—	31.3	11.3	3.9	9.8
59	50	49	Scruttons 'A'	55	—	5.3	5.6	8.5	7.9
224	177	176	Trotter Limited	177	—	15.1	8.5	6.8	11.7
23	6	5	Twinkl Ord	121	—	—	—	—	—
30	68	67	Twinkl 15% ULS	73	—	15.0	20.8	—	—
55	33	32	Unilever Holdings	33	—	3.0	9.1	5.9	10.0
108	81	80	Walter Alexander	84	—	6.4	7.6	5.5	9.8
263	181	180	W. S. Yeates	217	—	13.1	6.0	4.1	8.3

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Anderson Strathclyde (I)	46.2(37.7)	4.1(2.8)	6.4(5.4)	1.1(1.1)	1/2	(4)
Burton (F)	189.6(196.4)	16.3(12.6)	16.8(13.3)	4.5(3.5)	1/3	6.5(5.5)
Crickhouse Dudley (I)	12.3(14.1)	0.55(0.914)	2.3(3.7)	0.9(0.5)	1/2	5.7(5.4)
Coult Radio (F)	211(208.5)	7.2(6.1)	16.6(15.4)	3.8(3.1)	5/2	7.7(7.4)
Cramphorn (F)	10.1(8.56)	0.24(0.27)	71(53.8)	11.5(11.5)	—	16.5(16.5)
A. Dunhill (I)	32.9(28.7)	2.09(1.31)	—	5(4)	8/1	(10.0)
Energy Capital (I)	0.055(0.023)	0.19(0.01)	24.5(23.9)	3(3)	1/2	(8.5)
Johnson Matthey (I)	409(433)	23.1(19.5)	20.08(10.37)	3.4(2.7)	14/1	5(4)
Kwik Save (F)	403.8(334.5)	19.1(15.5)	2.69(2.8)	2.2(2.2)	22/12	(4.85)
Long & Hambly (I)	—	0.28(0.23)	6.4(0.9)	1.1(1.1)	2/2	(2.4)
Monks Inv. (I)	14.03(16.61)	1.24(0.19)	2.25(1.39)	12(12)	1/12	(—)
National Electric (I)	—	0.31(0.28)	19.3(16.7)	1.15(1.1)	27/1	(3.65)
Rothmans Int. (I)	1.443(1.226)	52.6(40.8)	12.9(11.9)	7.5(6.3)	23/12	11.5(10.5)
Son. Cities Inv. (F)	—	0.63(0.58)	0.49(1.53)	—	—	(0.6)
Talbot (F)	9.3(16.9)	0.35(0.22)	1.52(1.34)	2.5(2.3)	14/1	4(4)
Sound Diffusion (I)	1.44(1.94)	3.57(3.85)	6.7(3.3)	1.08(1.8)	1/2	(1.87)
Spring Grove (F)	23.9(23.6)	3.7(3.2)	6.0(12.5)	—	—	—
Wedgwood (I)	60(43.16)	2.99(1.68)	2.2(0.82)	—	—	—
Witan Inv. (I)	—	—	—	—	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. \* Loss; † Gross investment income; ‡ Net earnings.

## Electrical side aids Comet's 12pc rise

By Drew Johnston

Improved performance in its electrical stores division has helped Comet Radiodivision Services to a 12.5 per cent increase in pretax profit to £7.2m for the year to August 29. Turnover increased by just over £2m to £211m.

Although profitability has improved in the group's principal activity, it has seen losses and poor performances in others, notably its jewelry division, and at Timberland, its home improvements subsidiary.

Mr Michael Hollingsbery, chairman, said yesterday that Timberland's poor performance had come as a disappointment. "Much to my surprise and others, the do-it-yourself

market is not recession-proof." During the year, the group closed sold off 24 Timberland stores and opened another four.

A turnaround from profitability to loss in the jewelry division has been blamed on a fall in demand coupled with an upturn in the price of gold. Comet's luxury goods subsidiary, James McOmney, has also been affected by recession and is still not trading profitably.

The return of better figures at the electrical stores division has been attributed to its comparison with highly depressed 1980 results. Destocking last year reduced profitability, but

this year restocking has been achieved with better gross profit margins. This has substantially increased the division's contribution to group profits.

Improvements in the economy are not envisaged by Mr Hollingsbery and until there is an upturn he does not expect any increase in consumer demand.

As a result of the gloomy outlook, the Comet board has increased the dividend by only 3 pence to 3.61p gross, giving a total payment for the year of 5.71p gross against 5.45p last year.

The market reacted by marking the shares up 1p to 116p.

## Computer and Systems to go public

By Our Financial Staff

Computer and Systems Engineering—CASE—the Watford-based telecommunications and computing group, is going public next month. A total of 2.5m shares will be offered for sale by G. Warburg, London merchant bank, at 225p each, representing 35 per cent of the enlarged share capital of the group.

The proceeds of the issue, about £5m, will be used to repay borrowings and finance future expansion, particularly overseas.

Profits for the year to the end of December are forecast at not less than £1.2m before tax, against £942,000.

## Ferguson Lacey and Bond in new deal

Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey is expected to announce major changes in the Australian energy group, which he has taken over from Mr Alan Bond today. It was Mr Bond's company which stepped in to save Mr Lacey's plans for the United States Simplicity Pattern group when they looked like being spoiled by an American investor Mr Carl Icahn.

The two have had business dealings before and are said to get on well. It was Mr Bond's 29 per cent stake in Hampton Gold Mining Areas which was bought by Mr Lacey and which he sold months later for a £1.1m profit at £8.4m.

Mr Bond, whose Bond Corporation is a diversified

## Director named at Abbey National

Sir Edward Singleton has been made a director of Abbey National Building Society from December 15. He is a past president of the Law Society and was on the Council of the Law Society from 1961 to 1980. Sir Edward is also chairman of the Solicitors Law Stationery Society. Mr Hall P. Ball to become managing director of Esso Petroleum from January 1. He is a vice-president of Esso Europe Inc and was a director of Esso Petroleum in 1977-78.

Sir John Spencer Willis will be replacing Sir Peter G. J. Vadesky as president of BSA/Columbia Pictures International Video. Mr Mike Bright is now chairman and managing director of Kooray Tractor Marine. Mr Kenneth Lane has resigned from the board of KTM after becoming director general of the Machine Tool Trades Association.

Mr E. Oliver St John and Mr Jon H. Stockland have gone on to the board of Duma Holdings. Members of the Policyholders Protection Board appointed by Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade are: Mr C. N. Smith, a senior partner in Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., as chairman; Insurance company members: Mr K. G. Addison, deputy chief general manager Sun Alliance and London Assurance Group; Mr D. C. Bourdon, general manager The Prudential Assurance Company; Mr W. Broadfoot, general manager and secretary Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society; Mr R. K. Bishop, chief general manager Phoenix Assurance Company; Mr C. M. O'Brien, managing director and secretary The Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses; and Mr K. St. J. Robinson, general manager Northern Star Insurance Company.

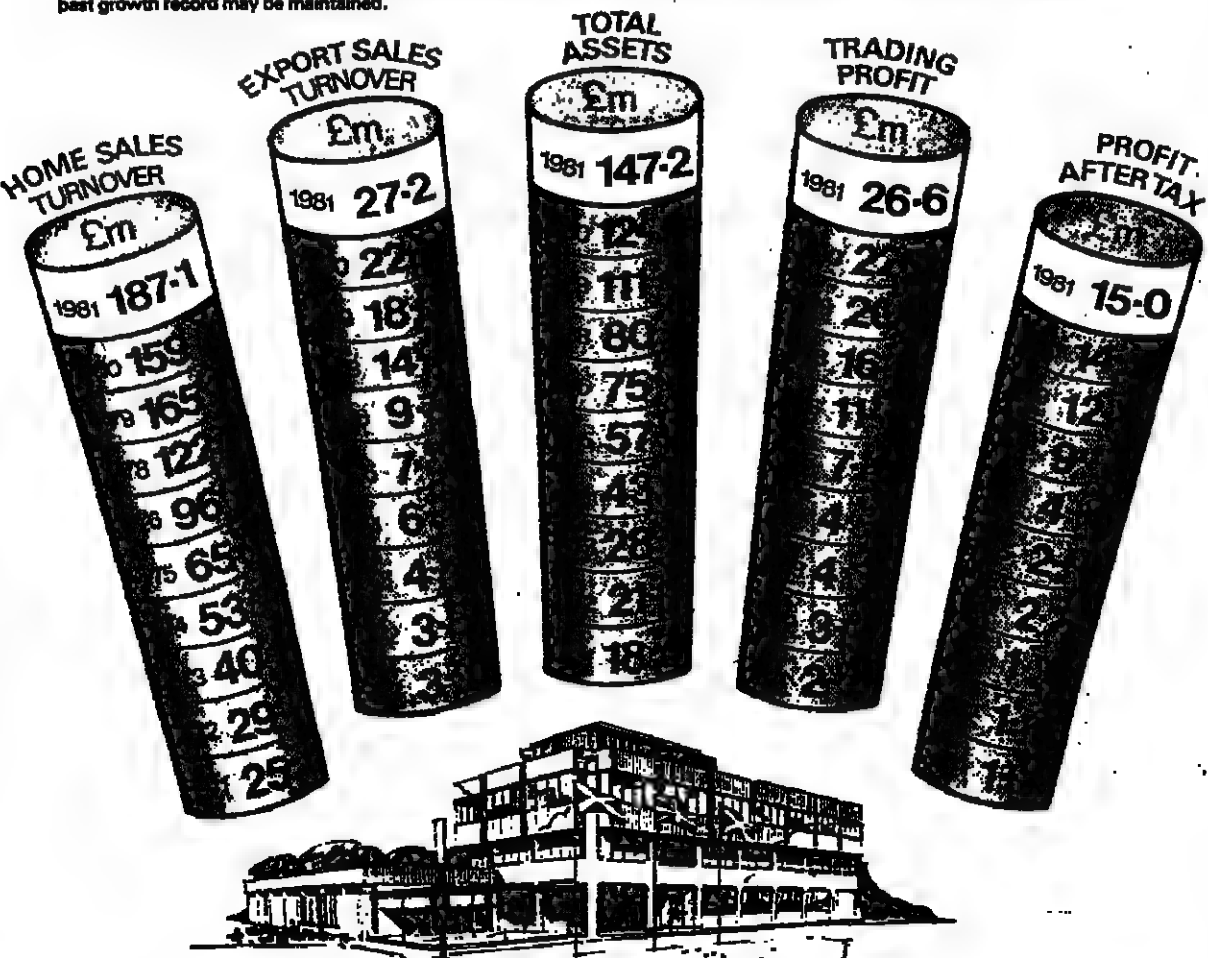
## ARTHUR BELL

SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS

## Ten Years of Growth

During the ten years since the Company's Ordinary Shares were first offered for sale to the public, there has been a growth in annual profit before tax from £1.53 million in 1971 to £20.02 million in 1981. Over the same period, in excess of £33 million has been spent on building developments.

In order to meet the continued growth in sales demand, annual distillery output has been increased over the ten years from 5.81 million litres of alcohol to 13.45 million and annual bottling output has been expanded from 22 million to 77 million bottles. The next decade is a challenging time and it will be the policy of the Company to seek areas of development in order to ensure that our past growth record may be maintained.



Extract from the Chairman's Statement: "EMPLOYEES The results achieved by the Company over the past year would not have been possible without the full co-operation and dedicated involvement of all our employees and I express my appreciation and thanks for their continued support."

GROUP	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
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LEICESTER: W H Rare; B Evans, C Woodward, P W Dodge, R C Baskin, J. Gussow, J. Kopp, J. Deacon, P J Wheeler, S P Redden, S R Johnson (capt), N R Joyce, N Jackson, I R Smith, D J Farber (rep), D Black.

NEW ZEALAND: P E McLean, P O Gigg, M H Cor, M D O'Connor (rep), M J Hawker, M C Martin, M G Ellis, P Cox, J E C Meadows, L Walker, J J Curran, C Roche, D Hall (rep), M J Mathers, S A Williams, G Corrigan, G L. Long.



The Cambridge captain missed touch often enough on this occasion for it to be his last. He has got all such lapses out of his system before England's international season starts. However, he scored early by himself and sparked off another late in the game. This second one, which made the most of an opposing breakdown, began at half-way with scrum-half David Davies and a movement, left to right, in which he was involved twice.

Hoskin (replacing McGahy in the centre at the interval), Allchurch and Boyd-Moss kept the momentum going before O'Brien looked to bring the movement to an untimely conclusion with an

[illegible]

# Tennis

**JOHANNESBURG:** South African open tournament Men's singles, final round S Gluckstein (Israel) beat R Simpson (New Zealand), 6-1, 6-2. 1st year U.S. beat N Paviano (U.S.), 6-0, 6-1. Women's singles, R Virild (South Africa) beat N Mahula

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[illegible]

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**SANTAGO:** Grand Prix Intercontinental  
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2nd: P. Rivoletti (Chile) beat 5  
Lips (Spain), 6-5  
(Argentina) beat 3 L. C. (U.S.)  
4-3, 6-5, 7-1, 10-1  
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It is almost, if it beats screens we might have second thoughts.

Something may yet be achieved on behalf of the worm by those ingenious French fisherman-scientists who have produced a

**Comrad Voss Bark**

**Hugh Falkus: a firm advocate of the worm as bait.**

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# Educational, Careers and Re-training

## STATE OF KUWAIT

UNIVERSITY OF KUWAIT

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Psychology Department at Kuwait University invites applications for:

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1. Method of teaching at Kuwait University is based on the credit system.
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 Professor: K.D. 1050-K.D. 1210  
 (Note: K.D. is equivalent to U.S. Dollars 3.5. There is no income tax in Kuwait; Currency is freely transferable without any restriction.)

Free furnished accommodation.

Complete applications together with copy, non-refundable, of the academic qualifications and the candidate's publications should be sent by registered post directly to the Department of Administrative Affairs, Kuwait University, P.O. Box 19083, Safat, Kuwait, State of Kuwait, to be received not later than 30th December 1981.



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## The Leverhulme Trust

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We urgently need a competent and enthusiastic person to be PA to the Director of our design consultancy in Kensington. Fast accurate typing and shorthand with a willingness to get involved in the general running of the company essential. Salary, £5,500 negotiable.

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SALARY UP TO 14,000 S.R. MONTHLY

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Benefits include but are not limited to the above: (1) starting salary of £4,500 p.a. (2) 45 days annual leave plus 14 days total for Ramadan and Haj public holidays. (3) Housing allowance equivalent to 3 times the agreed monthly salary will be paid annually in advance after clearance of all documentation. (4) Medical insurance for the employee and up to 3 dependants. (5) For the posts of architect, civil engineer and mechanical engineer, a B.Sc. or equivalent university degree is required. (6) For the post of quantity surveyor a professional qualification is required with 10 years minimum post-graduate experience including 5 years in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. (7) Post-qualification experience is required with 2 years' post-qualification experience. (8) Interviews will be conducted in London by Dr Mohamed Ali Tashandi or Abdulhadi Gouda, project co-ordination technical director, early in January, 1982. (9) The successful applicants will join an existing British team (all of whom have recently returned to Saudi Arabia) and will be expected to commence duty on or before 1st March, 1982. (10) Applications must be in writing with full c.v. and telephone no. and must include names, addresses and telephone numbers of 3 referees, to arrive not later than 15th December at the following address: SAUDI HEALTH OFFICE, 119 HARLEY STREET, LONDON, W.1.

## SAUDI HEALTH OFFICE,

119 HARLEY STREET, LONDON, W.1.

AUSTRALIA  
New South Wales State Fisheries

## Biologist (Oysters)

BRACKISH WATER FISH CULTURE  
RESEARCH STATION, PORT STEPHENS  
NEW SOUTH WALES

Applications are invited for the above position. The Government of New South Wales has decided that all oysters produced for sale must first be subject to purification. Purification Plants will be phased in over the next two years. New South Wales State Fisheries is responsible for protecting and developing the Fisheries including Oyster Farming. The Research Station is a modern well equipped aquaculture facility.

**SALARY**  
\$Aust 13,752 (\$3,339.60) range \$Aust 20,835 (\$5,208.80). A commencing salary beyond \$Aust 20,835 may be paid subject to special conditions. (The exchange rate fluctuates but the starting conversion rate above has been made at the rate of £1 = \$Aust 1.6400).

**QUALIFICATIONS**  
Essential—Degree in Science with a major in Biology or equivalent. Extensive research and practical experience in oyster purification. Current driver's licence or ability to obtain.

**DUTIES**  
Advise Government and industry on oyster contamination problems, implementing oyster purification programme and testing and effective operation of purification plants. Carry out research on parameters for optimum conditions for purification.

**GENERAL**  
Assistance will be provided for reasonable removal expenses and fares.

**INQUIRIES**  
For further information please telephone Ms. M. Chaloner on (01) 839 6651. Written applications are to be sent to the Official Secretary, NSW Government Offices, 85 Strand, London, WC2N 5LZ by 11 December, 1981.

NATIONAL  
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£100,000 potential

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## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

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BBC 1	BBC 2	ITV LONDON	Radio 4	Radio 3	Radio 2
<p>9.05 For Schools. Subjects include Europe from the Air (9.05), Japan: The Crowded Islands, 9.37 Science Workshop, 10.40 Scene — Why — pre-recorded, 10.52 News and Far — Bags of Sugar, 11.05 And Transport in Wales, air travel, 11.30 Closedown at 11.55; 12.30 News Afternoon, with Richard Whitmore, Mofa Stuart; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Live entertainment from the studios' famous foyer, includes Tony Blower's showbusiness item, 1.45 Pigeon Street, tales of a flood, 2.00 You and Me, with Roy Hudd and puppets, 2.15 For Schools, College: Music Time (a Christmas journey) and part five of After Four, with Cathy Palliser, 3.00 Closedown, 3.55 Play School; see BBC2, 11.00 am for details.</p> <p>4.20 Undercover Elephant cartoon, 4.25 Jackdaddy: Martin Jarvis reads part one of What Difference Does it Make, Danny?, by Helen Young, 4.40 Scooby and Scrappy-Doo cartoon.</p> <p>5.00 John Craven's Newsround, 5.05 Blue Peter: How the programme is bringing new hope to two villages in central Java; 5.25 The Amazing Adventures of Morpheus with Tony Hart (1).</p> <p>5.40 News with Richard Baker, 6.0 Regional News magazines, 6.25 National News.</p> <p>6.55 Tomorrow's World: Items of polishing silver, preventing blood clots, stocking in at work, and defending our ears.</p> <p>7.20 Top of the Pops, with Mike Reid.</p> <p>7.55 Stanley Blank: The celebrity panel is made up of Dawn Addams, Bernie Clifton, Julia McKenzie, Brian Murphy, Denise Belfrage, Nimmo and Tessa Wyatt. The MC is Terry Wogan.</p> <p>8.30 Sink or Swim: Comedy about two brothers and a girl-friend. Tonight: Brian (Peter Davison) makes a big decision about his future.</p>	<p>11.00 Play School: Charles Keeping reads his own story Cherry, Charlotte and the Golden Canary. He also provides the illustrations, 11.25 Closedown, 12.00 Open University: The Pre-School Child: going shopping; 12.25 Health Choices: "See-Saw"; 12.50 Governing Schools: The Interview, Open University transmissions end at 1.15; 1.55 Women of Our Times: A second chance to see this remarkably informative profile of the singer and actress Lotte Lenya.</p> <p>4.45 The Camera and the Song: the South Wales of singer Max Boyce. Nigel Walters is the cameraman.</p> <p>5.15 Personal Pleasures with Sir Hugh Casson: The beautiful links between the painter and sculptor G.F. Watts and Compton in Surrey (1).</p> <p>5.40 The Five Faces of Doctor Who: Final episode of the "Three Doctors" (1).</p> <p>6.05 Five The Beest from 20,000 Fathoms (1980) An atomic blast releases a prehistoric monster from an Arctic ice floe and he devastates New York.</p> <p>7.25 News with sub-titles, 7.30 Cartoon: Bottles.</p> <p>7.40 Living on the Land: How an inherited horse transformed the lives of a Herefordshire farming family.</p> <p>8.30 Russell Harty: Live show from Manchester.</p>	<p>9.30 For Schools. Subjects include: Politics at 9.30; My World (about a Pakistani family) at 9.52; The Land (Middle East) at 10.25; Watch Your Language (weather forecasting) at 11.22; and Middle English (knowledge through writing) at 11.39; 12.00 LBS: Blue, story of a baby elephant; 12.10 Get Up and Go! with Moon and Beryl Reid; 12.30 The Sullivan; 1.00 News; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 Taff Aca: Wales, life series, A short announcement from Linda; 2.00 Afternoon Plus: Items on children's shoes and work patterns; and interviews with writer Gavin Young, 2.45 Health and the Suffolk Ghost: Story of a cockney private eye (Nicholas Ball), 3.45 Three Little Words.</p> <p>4.15 Survival: Festest Thing on Four Legs. A film about cheetahs.</p> <p>4.45 World Gymnastics Championships 1981: The men's optional programme, from Moscow. First of five days' coverage by ITV.</p> <p>5.45 News; 6.00 Thames area news.</p> <p>6.25 Sounds Like London: Quiz to Londoners, with a strong showbusiness bias. Benny Green is the MC. Music by the Harry Slashers Group.</p> <p>6.55 The Streets of San Francisco: Because of a legal technicality, the man who killed a deaf burglar escapes the death penalty. But the dead man's father tries to take the law into his own hands. Co-starring Karl Malden and Michael Douglas.</p> <p>7.50 Film: The Aliens are Coming (1980) Made-for-TV thriller about some highly intelligent creatures from another planet who land in the Nevada desert and plan to take over the entire human race. With Tom Mason, Melinda Fee, Max Gail and Caroline McWilliams.</p>	<p>6.00 News Briefing, 6.10 Farming Today, 6.20 Today, 6.25 Yesterday in Parliament, 6.30 News, 6.35 Country, 6.40 The World Tonight, 6.45 A Book at Bedtime: "The Poor Mouth" by Pádraic Ó'Brien (1), 11.15 The Financial World Tonight, 11.20 Today in Parliament, 11.30 News, By-Election Special, 12.23 By-Election Special.</p> <p>VHF, 6.25: Weather Forecast, 9.05 For Schools, 10.50 LBS with Mother, 11.00 For Schools, 2.00 pm For Schools, 5.50 PM (continued), 11.00 Study on 4.</p> <p>6.55 Weather, 7.00 News, 7.05 Morning Concert, Strauss, Schubert, Bartok, Nielsen, 8.00 News, 8.05 Morning Concert (continued), 8.10 News, 8.15 Morning Concert, 8.20 News, 8.25 Morning Concert, 8.30 News, 8.35 Morning Concert, 8.40 News, 8.45 Morning Concert, 8.50 News, 8.55 Morning Concert, 9.00 News, 9.05 Morning Concert, 9.10 News, 9.15 Morning Concert, 9.20 News, 9.25 Morning Concert, 9.30 News, 9.35 Morning Concert, 9.40 News, 9.45 Morning 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# Threat of 'civil war' over purge of Labour left

By Anthony Evans, Political Correspondent

The Labour Party's Militant tendency last night threatened a "hurricane" of rank-and-file opposition to any purge of the Trotskyite left.

A statement issued by Mr Peter Taffie, editor of Militant, warned that civil war would result. He accused those right-wingers who were pressing for an inquiry into Militant of plotting to stab the party in the back. "They are the SDF/Liberal Trojan Horse within the Labour Party," he said.

The violence of the language was surprising because it followed on the heels of a so-called shoe shuffler by the party's national executive committee yesterday with Mr Foot indicating that he would not object to any inquiry into Militant.

The matter is due to be raised at a meeting of the executive's organization committee on December 7.

A spokesman for Militant commented on the executive decision: "We are not the worst, but we are the best." Mr John Gillingham, of the anti-left camp in the executive, interpreted Mr Foot's words differently.

There was, however, considerable support among right-wing MPs last night for the organization committee, under the chairmanship of Mr Eric Heffer, would sanction anything more than an internal party education campaign designed to under-

mine Militant influence in the constituencies.

Certainly, the executive yesterday reaffirmed its previous rejection of a resolution calling for the full-scale purge into Militant's aims, objectives, constitution, internal structure, finance and links with overseas bodies.

Mr Foot replied: "There is a case for looking at aspects of the party but I am against expulsions."

Mr Taffie's statement warned: "A hurricane of opposition from Labour Party members, union branches and shop stewards' committees will greet the right's attempt to drive Marxism from the Labour Party."

When the issue was raised in the Shadow Cabinet last night, Mr Heffer was reported to have told his colleagues that the organization committee would carry out a full and thorough inquiry.

But senior shadow ministers questioned whether Mr Heffer's committee was the appropriate body to carry out such an important task.

Mr James Callaghan, the former Labour Prime Minister, said in a lecture in London: "The Party is going through a bad patch. It is not the first time in its history."

He went on: "We must not allow extravagant language, such as 'civil war', to be used to frighten us. The Labour movement from coming to power and making the vital changes that are needed."



The Princess of Wales and Prince Andrew were among members of the Royal Family who went to the Royal Opera House, last night to see the ballet "Romeo and Juliet."

## Heikal release turns a page for Egypt

From Robert Fisk, Cairo, Nov 25

Mohamed Heikal sat on his hotel balcony above the Nile this evening as the sun went down behind the pyramids, and drew heavily on one of his favourite Cuban cigars. In the half-light, you could only just tell that he had grown thinner in prison and that the skin sagged a little unnaturally around his face.

His jacket was rather too large for him and his eyes moved ceaselessly up and down the great river below him as if he could not quite believe that he was no longer in a prison hospital or underground. It was, after all, the first time in modern Egyptian history that a man has been imprisoned on the orders of one President and personally greeted by his successor.

"We were taken to the socialist prosecutor's office for two minutes," he said "somebody said 'You're going to the Orouba Palace'. We were driven there in a minibus with six men waiting and led into a saloon and there was President Mubarak."

"He said to us: 'Let us not talk about the past—let us turn over a new page for the sake of Egypt's future.' So I replied: 'The new page has already been turned.'"

Mr Heikal was the best known figure among the 31 journalists, politicians and lawyers who regained their freedom today after three months in Cairo's less than opulent Tora prison. A distinguished author and journalist, a close friend of Nasser and a former editor of *Al-Ahram*, Mr Heikal was arrested at dawn on September 3 and—with 1,536 other detainees—accused by President Sadat of contributing to sectarian conflict in Egypt.

President Mubarak clearly intended today's releases to symbolize a break with the past and a sign that he does not intend to follow the aggressive and sometimes vengeful domestic policies of his predecessor. According to Dr Foad Moushalla, his Deputy Prime Minister, 41 other "politically involved persons" are among the remaining 1,505 inmates. The rest are said to be Muslim and Christian extremists, although no formal charges have been brought against them.

President Mubarak's personal photographer was summoned to the palace to record his meeting with the released prisoners. The President obviously thought his gesture would be received with considerable gratitude and affection. He was right in his judgment. According to Mr Heikal, the President "talked like a man today—I always thought well about him."

Mr Heikal categorically refused to discuss his treatment in prison but his memories of his arrest and interrogation were sharp.

Mr Heikal did not hear about President Sadat's assassination until October 7, the day after the murder. "The director of the prison told me about the killing," he said tonight. "He said to me 'God keep your life'—it is an expression in Arabic and I thought a relative must have died. I asked what happened and they told me. They said he died after the military parade. Strangely enough, I was moved—I tell you honestly, I had tears in my eyes. All I realised was that for 20 years Sadat was a friend."

Three days ago, Mr Heikal was moved to the Kasr El Ain hospital because he was in pain from two stones in his kidneys. But he had already received a clue that his release might be imminent.

What is more, the results of alliance candidates has improved after each by-election success or near success, presumably helped by the national publicity.

Out of 57 local by-elections fought since the victory at Crofton North-west five weeks ago the Liberals have gained 20 and the SDP 14, each party supporting the other.

From mid-May after the local elections until the Westminster election in July the success rate of alliance candidates in local by-elections was 23 per cent. Between Warminster, between mid July and October, it rose to 43 per cent and since October and the Crofton by-election the success rate has been 67 per cent.

So, taken together, the evidence of the local elections, the parliamentary by-elections, and the opinion polls all similarly suggest a steady advance.

Yesterday in a last effort to rally his supporters Mr Burcher offered a "final election special" leaflet with what he called his action points to help industry provide jobs. His policy included keeping inflation down and cutting government borrowing, and keeping rates and public sector prices under tighter control.

## Williams set for victory in Crosby

Continued from page 1

decided had resolved, instead to support him.

Mr Backhouse, the Labour candidate, said bravely yesterday that because of the split in the anti-Socialist vote he was sure that there would be a maximum turnout of the Labour vote.

But all across the constituency Conservative voters on the doorsteps and in the shopping centres were showing signs of doubt, while Labour voters were saying that it was for Mrs Williams offered the best chance of giving the Government a fright.

Whatever the cause of the high level of support for the alliance there is new evidence that it is growing steadily and all over the country. Analysis in this week's *New Statesman* magazine of local authority by-elections in the past five weeks shows that alliance candidates are winning two out of three seats which they have contested.

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## Fresh, fluent, bright-eyed, confident—insufferable

Frank Johnson in Crosby

By last night, the candidates had made the last speech, negotiated the last U-turn, signed the last demand, and the last old Labour's rescue job, one of Labour's rescue jobs, Agincourt? Waterloo? World War? On this occasion, he did get round to a second crisis. But it turned out to be essentially the same one.

"We saved the country at the 1945 general election... That is, after the SECOND World War." His speech was safely home. He sat down to polite applause. There were many young people in the audience who were perhaps hearing the well-loved speech for the first time. Hearing it thus must be like a young person's first acquaintance with one of the improving classics, such as Moby Dick: unimpeachable.

Next morning—that is, yesterday—Mrs Shirley Williams appeared for her last press conference. She was, as usual, bright-eyed, confident, well-briefed, fluent in a word, insufferable. They will learn to love it as they grow older.

"You all seem tired," she told us—still more maddeningly. It was true our questions were slow coming. But by yesterday she had demoralised us. She would not expose her policies—only so much as a glimpse of an ankle of a policy, let alone a thigh.

The much-abused conservative, Mr Burcher, has committed himself to all sorts of policies. Only a few have been opportunistic popular. The others have been the Government's. Sometimes he has been badly briefed but that makes him much less suspicious. He is a figure like Mrs Williams.

She is always well briefed, but ignores the policies. Generalised goodwill is her line. Yesterday her campaign—produced a last leaflet: one for the constituency, the more proletarian areas, the record of the Tory Seton Council in various allegedly horrendous cities. The other concerned itself with more genteel matters such as mortgages and interest rates, only stopping short of lamenting the shortage of servants. You have got to hand it to her.

In that alternating blaring and whispering that is the basis of his rhetorical style, he exclaims: "We SAVED THE COUNTRY in the SECOND World War." Presumably a reference to the fact that Labour voted against Chamberlain in the Norway Debate of 1940, rather than to the fact that it did not vote for conscription, and other wartime measures in the years immediately before.

He rambles on, changing the subject, stalling for time. You can almost see that old brain debating which other historic crisis it should choose its last with next as one of Labour's rescue jobs. Agincourt? Waterloo? World War? On this occasion, he did get round to a second crisis. But it turned out to be essentially the same one.

## Yoko to sue Lord Grade

Paul McCartney and Yoko Ono are to sue Lord Grade's ATV Music Corporation for alleged breach of trust, they announced yesterday. The move follows the failure of the ex-Beatle's attempt to buy back the rights to all the Beatles' hits.

Lord Grade turned down his offer of more than £21m for the copyrights last week.

McCartney said Yoko, John Lennon's widow, are thought to have negotiated secretly with Lord Grade in New York.

Lord Grade paid £10m in 1969 for Northern Songs which owns the copyrights to all the songs. He turned down McCartney because he wanted to sell the whole of the corporation's music publishing division, not just "part of its catalogue".

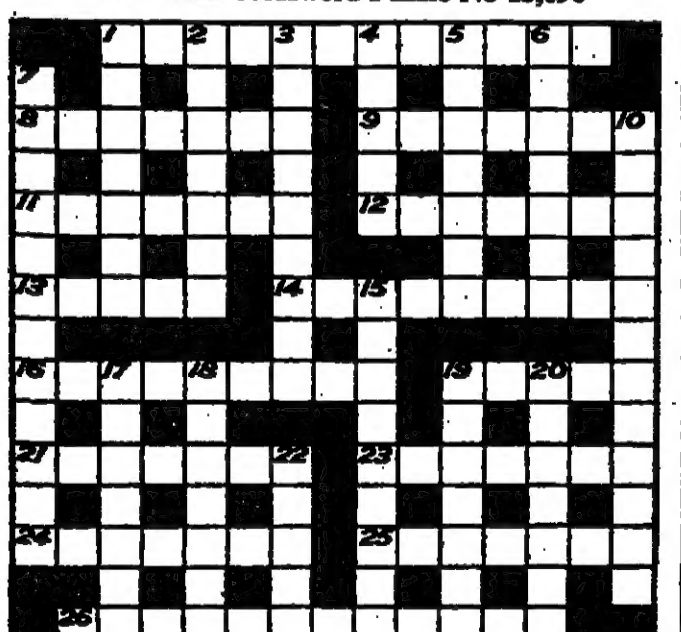
## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Tomorrow's events

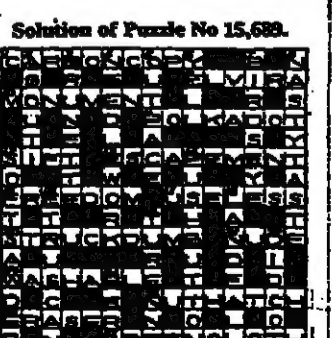
The Queen holds investiture, 11. The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor of the University, visits the university, 9.30, and Experimental Wildlife Reserve, Sevenoaks, Kent, 2.30.

Princess Anne opens the City of Edinburgh District Council headquarters and meat plant at Gorgie, 10, and stable block and club room of the Drum Riding for the Disabled Trust at Gilmerton, 2.30.

### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,690



- ACROSS**
- A case of simultaneous hit and run (8, 4).
  - A Sheridan character, we hear, is coming (7).
  - His love is not end older (7).
  - Monica's crafty (7).
  - Copper and gold invested in free insurance for sky-divers (3, 4).
  - Many coming to that Roman city in France (5).
  - Those who do so should remove all traces, etc (7).
  - An emendator? A Welsher, rather (5).
  - Sharp girl's given a start by this instrument (5).
  - Transport I catch to this meeting of governors (7).
  - Sound quality? Found the old ambience (7).
  - Comparatively spruce, the Vicar of Bray (7).
  - It looks grand in feature on hair-style (7).
  - Important man's link with the Star of Bethlehem? (7, 5).
- DOWN**
- A shady put-up job (7).
  - Some interest perhaps concerning the meeting place (7).
  - Burnt offering arranged at upper-class school (9).



### Exhibitions

Bridgeshead Revisited exhibition, National Theatre, South Bank, 10 am-11 pm.

Post-Modern works, Air Gallery, 6-8 Rosebery Avenue, London, 7-9 pm.

Watercolours by Roxby Bott, Gallery Thirty Three, High Street, Billingshurst, Sussex, 9.30.

Lectures, talks  
Audio-visual programme by Patrick Caulfield, 12; reading by Gill Cotton and Cecily Lowenthal, "Love and the Pre-Raphaelites", Gallery 15, Tate Gallery, 1.

"The Bagnages and the Caissons" by Robert Birley, City University, Northampton Square, London, 1.

"Early Christian Art", Anne Pearson, British Museum, 11.30.

Rubens, "Autumn landscape with a view of Het Steen", Colin Wiggins, National Gallery, Lower Floor Theatre, 1.

Music  
Organ recital, Christopher Dearlley, St Paul's Cathedral, 12.30.

Recital by Eden and Tamir piano duo master class at Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, 4.30.

Festival of Okinawa, Commonwealth Arts Centre, Kensington High Street, 7.30.

Northern Sinfonia, Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, 7.45.

### The Times list of best-selling books

Paperbacks	Hardbacks	Penguing	
Bridgeshead Revisited	Evlyn Waugh		\$2.50
Paint	John Fitzmaurice		
	Mills	BBC	\$2.75
Giles 33	Chive-James	Express Newspapers	\$1.35
Unavailable Memoirs	John Fowles	Picador	\$1.50
The French Lieutenant's Women	Nigel Ross	Faber	\$1.95
Reverendings	Anthony Burgess	Granada	\$1.95
Earthly Powers	Ronald Gower	Unwin Paperbacks	\$1.25
Sugar and Spice	Ronald Gower	Eyre Methuen	\$2.50
	Ronald Gower	Penguin	\$2.50
	Ronald Gower	Hodder & Stoughton	\$4.50

The Times list is based on trade sales through Hammonds to 400 bookshops and verified retail sales through Hammonds's bookshops and 20 others.

### Auctions today

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: Continental paintings, 11; English and Continental furniture, 2.30. Christie's, King Street: claret and white Bordeaux, 11; late eighteenth and nineteenth century Continental drawings, 11. Christie's, King Street: claret and white Bordeaux, 11; late eighteenth and nineteenth century Continental drawings, 11. Christie's, King Street: claret and white Bordeaux, 11; late eighteenth and nineteenth century Continental drawings, 11.

### Roads

The North: M6: Lanes closed between 10 and 11.50. A19(T): Success Road intersection, Middleborough slip roads closed, diversion, A6: Windsor Bridge, Slough, 12.45.

Wales and the West: M5: Junction 17 and 18 (Bristol): Only outside lane open southbound, two-way flow northbound. A40: South Kensington: traffic on only carriageway through tunnel, near Monmouth. A38: Diversion, Central roundabout, Caerdydd, 12.45. A38: Diversion, Central roundabout, Caerdydd, 12.45.

On the "day of action" in Ulster, the *St. Andrews Zeppelin* speaks of "growing suspicion" that Paisley's ultimate aim is an independent Ulster, financed by Europe and ruled by himself.

The New Bank Zeppelin sharply criticizes the Protestant leader, Northern Ireland needs men with intelligence not just apologetics like Paisley, it says.

The Pound  
Australia \$ 1.71  
Canada \$ 1.71  
Hong Kong \$ 1.71  
India \$ 1.71  
Japan \$ 1.71  
New Zealand \$ 1.71  
Singapore \$ 1.71  
South Africa \$ 1.71  
Switzerland \$ 1.71  
USA \$ 1.71

Parliament today  
Commons (2.30): Debates on Labour's motion on law and order and on damaging effects of high interest rates. Lords (3): Boxer Bill, second reading. Debate on the BBC's external services.

## Weather

Troughs of low pressure will move quickly E across all areas.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, Central, E, SW, Central W. Rain, drizzle, with occasional rain in places, becoming clearer and drier later; wind mostly from the west, backing to strong from the south, temp 10C (50F).

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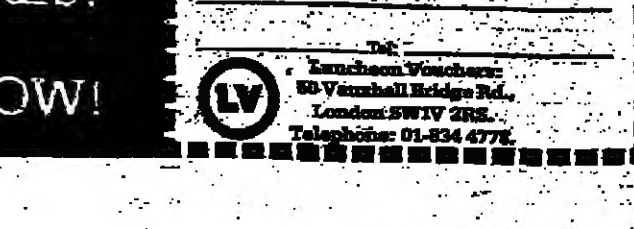
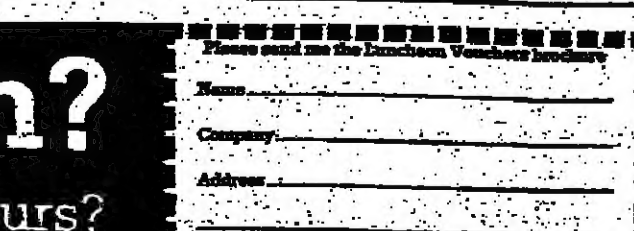
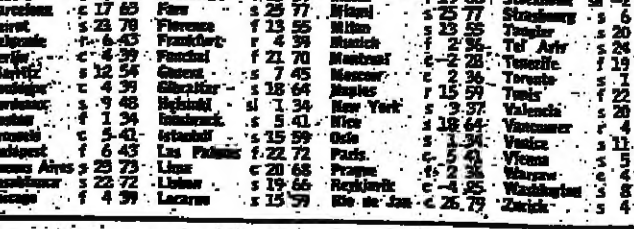
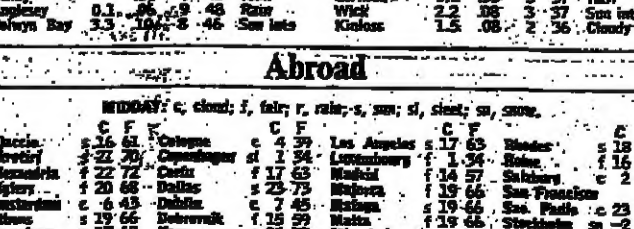
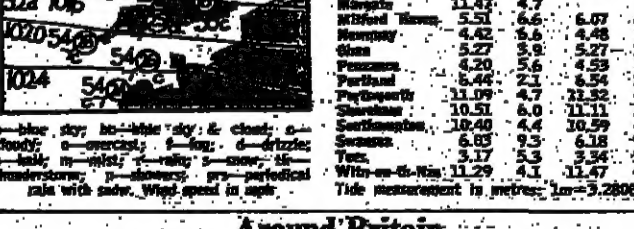
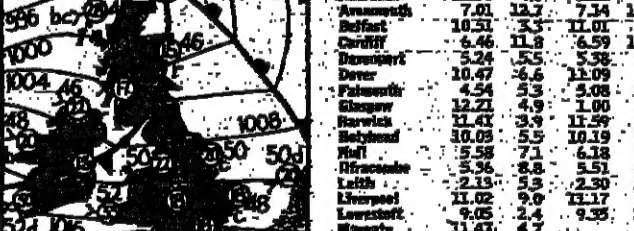
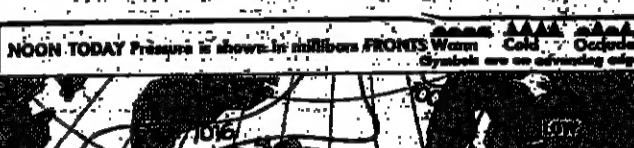
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